

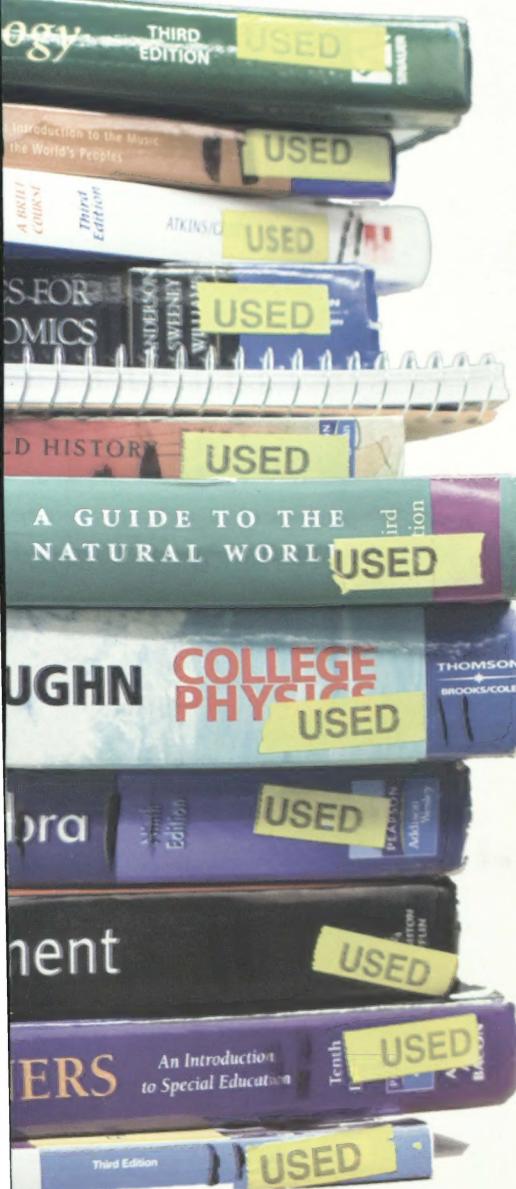
RETROSPECT

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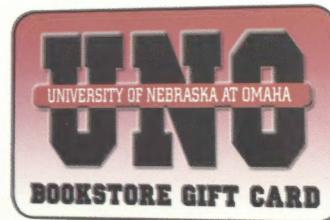
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The magazine you hold in your hands doesn't, can't represent everything that went into it, just as it cannot show every facet of the University of Nebraska at Omaha during the last twelve months.

We have what can only be taken as a snapshot, a university forever frozen in perpetual budget crunch issues and mired in construction projects. The UNO as we remember it will not be the same next year. And it will not be the same the year after that. But our snapshot is a happy snapshot; it is a picture of UNO students volunteering their spring break (**page 14**), regional and national champions (**page 50 and page 34**) as well as School of Communications students actively covering President Barack Obama's historic election (**page 25**).

It is about stories of UNO's 74-year-old modern dance company (**page 28**) and about UNO as it passed its 100th birthday (**page 6**).

When I was selected as the editor in chief of the Retrospect, I was acutely aware that this would be the centennial edition. The UNO we all know has spent 100 years growing and developing into the institution we see today.

The theme of the centennial, "UNO: Central to our City," puts us as an integral key to the City of Omaha. And really, how fitting, as the year has shown that UNO is alive with activity, growth and possibility. It has shown a university intricately linked to its metropolitan city and the contributions and impact UNO and its students have made.

I am entering my final semester at UNO before I receive my bachelor's degree in English. The last three and a half years I've spent here have shaped me beyond measure. But it truly is the learning outside of the classroom that has left the deepest mark on me.

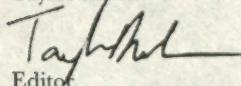
I started writing for the Gateway in the spring of 2006. Nervous about being published and interacting with the slightly intimidating staff, I took it slow, writing only every now and then. But looking back on the long path I have taken to get to this university and this student newspaper, the name of our bi-weekly publication rings true for me. The Gateway has been just that, a gateway. It is these outside experiences that define and shape our experience at UNO, and I found these opportunities to be the most personally enriching experiences that before I attended UNO I would not have imagined impossible.

So, this newspaper, and more importantly this university, has directed me in a path to my future, and each and every graduating student towards theirs. I congratulate the graduating class of 2009 for its hard work, dedication and contributions it has made and will make as you join the ranks of UNO alumni around the world.

To the graduates, remember your alma mater fondly as you look back years from now. Perhaps a copy of this publication will serve as a starting point for many of those memories. But to those students not yet graduating keep in mind the next year belongs to you. Next year's Retrospect will be full of stories you create and memories you are a part of. As a student at UNO, while the adage may be outworn and overused, your time spent here is what you make of it. For many, this university has been the gateway to continued success and will hopefully continue serving that purpose for another 100 years and beyond.

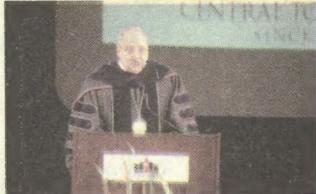
I would be remiss if I did not thank my staff for its incredible devotion and dedication. This magazine you hold would have been for the worse without each member of Team Gateway, thank you.

Regards and have a safe and fun summer,
Taylor Muller


Editor



NEWS



PAGE 4

UNO CELEBRATES 100
YEARS OF BEING OMAHA'S
INSTITUTE OF HIGHER
EDUCATION, FACES
BUDGET SHORTFALLS

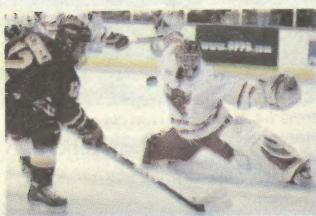
ENTERTAINMENT



PAGE 18

STUDENT ART SHOWS,
ENTERTAINMENT
AWARDS AND RECAPS
OF UNO'S FINE ARTS
DEPARTMENTS

SPORTS



PAGE 33

UNO SPENDS FIRST
YEAR IN MID-AMERICA
INTERCOLLEGiate
ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION

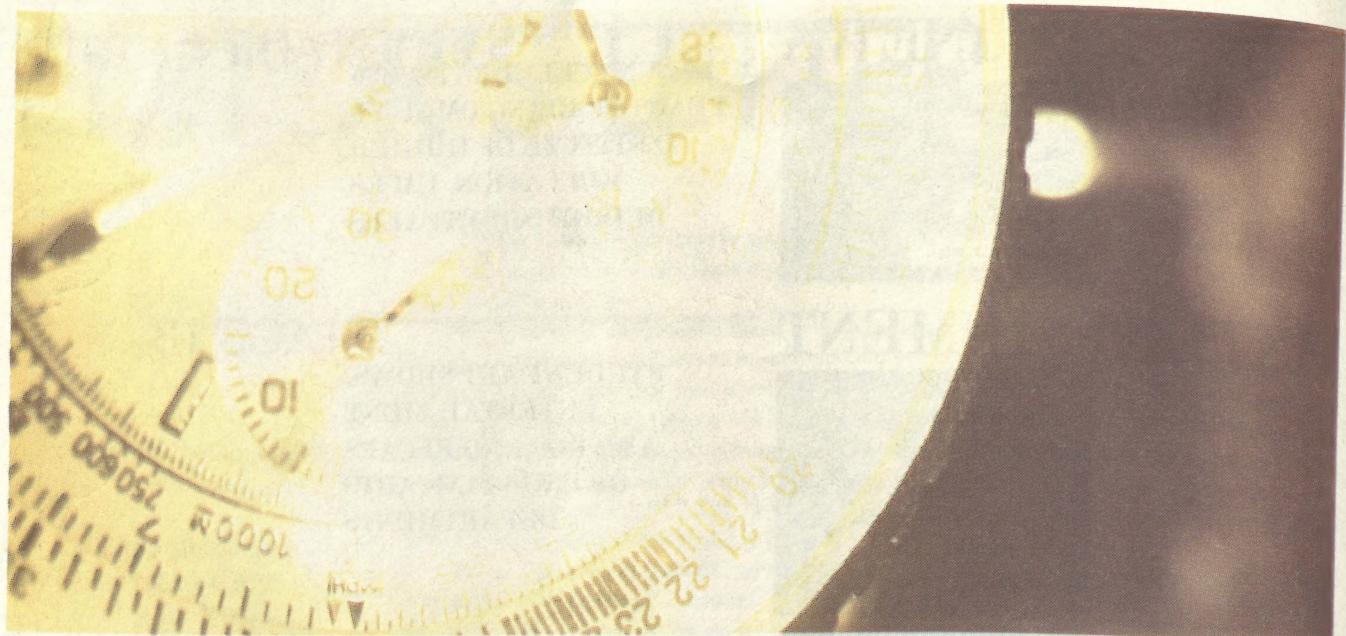
GRADUATES



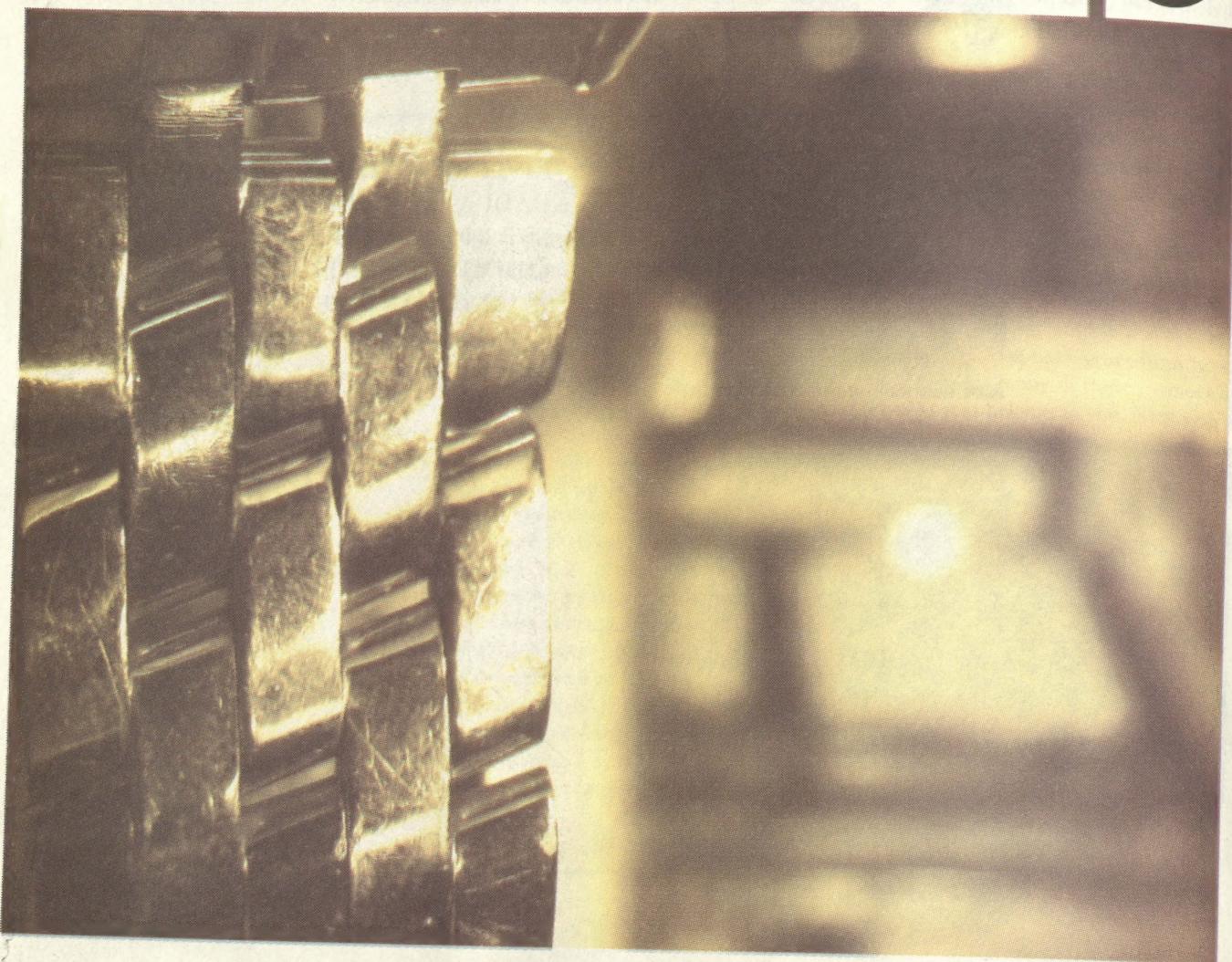
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LISTINGS OF THE
GRADUATES FROM
AUGUST 2008, WINTER
COMMENCEMENT
AND MAY 2009





NEWS



Campus budget forecast dire for next biennium

BY SCOTT STEWART

University of Nebraska President James B. Milliken went before the Nebraska Legislature's Appropriations Committee on March 3 to paint a picture of the university's budget situation for the 2009-11 biennium.

That picture, unfortunately for the NU system, is grim.

If the committee sticks with its original 1.5 percent funding increase for the system, the university would have a \$45 million shortfall over the next two years, Milliken said. Even with a 5 percent tuition increase, the university system would still be more than \$23 million in the red.

If that happens, "the result is the elimination of somewhere between 300 and 600 good jobs across the university," Milliken told the nine-member committee.

Worse, the figures do not take into consideration a life insurance benefit and 3.8 percent annual salary increase awarded in collective bargaining to the UNO chapter of the American Association of University Professors.

"...sacrifice is not something we're unaccustomed to."

JOHN CHRISTENSEN

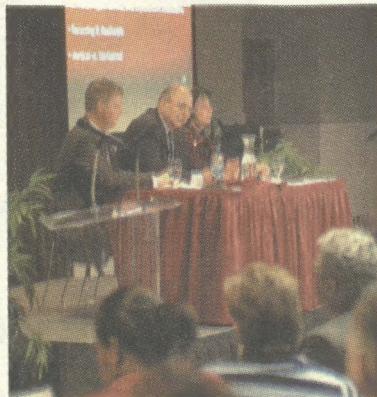
between the four NU system campuses.

The university was still appealing the AAUP award with the Nebraska Commission of Industrial Relations as of press time. The university had offered faculty a 2.9 percent increase for 2009-10 and a 2.5 percent increase for 2010-11, with no life insurance benefit.

Milliken asked the Appropriations Committee to consider increasing the allocation to the university system because, he said, the university is an important part of the solution to the recession for Nebraska.

"We should try to maintain our efforts to improve Nebraskans' prospects for the future – by investing in an institution that has the power to help our state grow stronger economically – to create jobs, to help our citizens increase their earning capacity through education and to conduct research in critical areas such as water, transportation and energy that can help spur economic recovery," Milliken said.

At the UNO campus, Chancellor John Christensen has conducted two budget forums in an effort to keep faculty, staff



SCOTT STEWART/RETROSPECT

and students aware of the budget decision-making process.

The Budget Advisory Task Force has also launched a Web site – www.unomaha.edu/budgetadvisorytf – to keep the campus up-to-date with the budget situation.

At the first budget forum in January, Christensen also presented a dire view of the campus budget, describing it as "anorexic." He said the challenge of reducing spending is made all the more difficult because there's not much flexibility left on the university's books.

"We've had to live without a lot for a long time, so sacrifice is not something we're unaccustomed to," Christensen said.

The Appropriations Committee is expected to release its final budget proposal by April 29, with the Nebraska Legislature expected to take action on the state budget by May 18.

The NU Board of Regents will then meet on June 12 to adopt a finalized university-wide budget and set tuition rates for the 2009-10 academic year. Final allocations to individual departments will be made after June 19.

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Centennial celebration more than just cake

BY SCOTT STEWART

UNO began celebrating its 100th birthday on Oct. 8 with a convocation ceremony that kicked off a week of events on campus coinciding with the annual homecoming celebration.

Convocation took place in the Strauss Performing Arts Center recital hall, which was standing-room only.

The ceremony included First Lady of Nebraska Sally Ganem, Omaha Mayor Mike Fahey, Rep. Lee Terry, Sen. Chuck Hagel, Regent Kent

Schroeder, NU President James B. Milliken and Senior Vice Chancellor Terry Hynes.

"The time is now for UNO to accept the responsibility and opportunity of being a national leader among metropolitan universities," Chancellor John Christensen said in prepared remarks. "As John Fitzgerald Kennedy once said, 'We choose these things not because they are easy, but because they are hard.' I know our best is yet to come, and so I asked each of you to join us in realizing that dream."

Christensen delivered his annual State of the University address, with this year's theme "UNO 100: Central to Our City, Fulfilling the Promise," in which he outlined some of the university's needs for the future.

"We will need to continue to build people, place and program capacity," Christensen said. "Longer-term capacity building will require strategic consideration regarding the build-out of Pacific [Street] and Center [Street] locations, need for core science lab and performing arts space and new locations for radio/TV, child care, student services and buildings and grounds."

In addition to convocation, Centennial Week included the rededication of the College of Public Affairs and Community Service Building, formerly the Engineering Building; the groundbreaking ceremony for the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building renovation and expansion; campus tours; a jazz event; a barbecue; a tailgate party and the homecoming football game against Missouri Western.



ANDREA BARBE/RETROSPECT

OCT. 8, 1908

Articles of incorporation are filed for Omaha University.

SEPT. 14, 1909

First classes begin at Omaha University in Redick Hall.

MAY 6, 1930

Omaha voters approve creating a Municipal University by 1,020 votes.

NOV. 4, 1938

The Administration Building, now Arts and Science Hall, is dedicated.

OCT. 8, 1959

OU celebrates its 50th anniversary with a cake-cutting ceremony.

CENTENNIAL

Gala centerpiece of spring centennial events

Community comes together to celebrate 100 years

BY TAYLOR MULLER

UNO rolled out the red carpet for its Centennial Gala on Feb. 21.

About 600 members of the UNO and Omaha community celebrated the 100th anniversary of Omaha's largest institution of higher education.

The gala, hosted by the University of Nebraska Foundation and the UNO Alumni Association, was held at the Qwest Center as the second part of the year's overall centennial celebration.

The festivities were kicked off by Chancellor John Christensen's

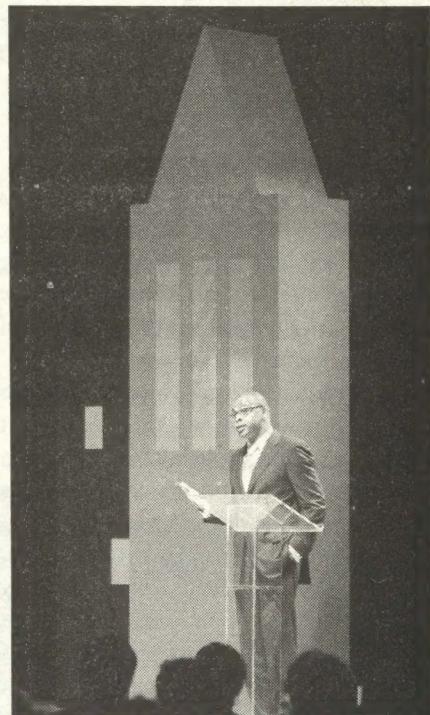
convocation address in October.

"We are all privileged to be a part of this great institution as it celebrates 100 years of rich history and charts a course for an even brighter future," Christensen said. "The centennial theme, 'Central to Our City,' is truly representative of the mission of our metropolitan university."

The proceeds from gala helped fund two community fellowships at UNO for graduate students. Omaha businesses Union Pacific and the Weitz Family Foundation were the title sponsors.

"The centennial fellowships will further strengthen UNO's engagement with the community," Christensen said. "It works hand in hand with our centennial theme of the university being central to our city."

UNO was founded in 1908 as Omaha University, which it remained until it joined the University of Nebraska system in 1968.



TIM FITZGERALD/UNO



TIM FITZGERALD/UNO

TIMELINE

MAR. 31, 1980

Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building is opened..

MAY 18, 1989

Henningson Memorial Campanile is dedicated.

SEPT. 21, 1987

Durham Science Center is dedicated.

AUG. 21, 1999

Peter Kiewit Institute is dedicated.

OCT. 8, 2008

UNO's fall convocation kicks off the centennial celebration.



Maverick Village expands housing on Dodge Street

BY CAITRIN SHIRAZI

UNO added to its on-campus housing this year, introducing Maverick Village, an eight-building complex beside the University Village dormitories on the southwest corner of the Dodge Street campus.

Construction of Maverick Village started in summer 2007 and first housed students this fall. In the spring semester, 384 students are listed as residents of the dormitories.

Unlike other dorms on campus, Maverick Village is managed by the university itself, not an outside contractor. Like the other on-campus housing complexes, though, Maverick Village provides residents with free Internet and basic cable along with living quarters and utilities.

"We're all inclusive with our rent," said Bill Pickett, director of Maverick Village. "That means everything is included in rent — utilities, cable, Internet, trash, recycling, etc."

Maverick Village also provides residents with the opportunity to participate in a residence building council, which develops and hosts community-

building programs, activities and events.

Council members plan most of the community programs, while the resident assistants plan programs for each specific building.

"This is a nice feature that is different with the other on-campus properties," Pickett said.

In addition to social activities, Maverick Village also offers academic opportunities.

"The Maverick Village staff understands and appreciates the value of learning inside and outside of the classroom," Pickett said. "We attempt to provide opportunities for students to engage with other students and get connected to the campus life culture."

The idea for council structure originated with Assistant Director Joey Weber, who wanted students other than the resident assistants to help with community development. The council meets every Monday night to discuss new ideas and plan community events.

One such event was "Maverick Village Fear Fest," a series of competitions between teams from each

building that included events such as a mustard-covered marshmallow eating contest and swallowing live minnows. The competitions challenged competitors' bodies, minds and — especially — stomachs.

A casino night was also hosted by Maverick Village to promote awareness of the consequences of alcohol use and abuse.

"Some ideas that we are looking on in the future is an end-of-the-year block party," said Jeff Destache, a council member. "The council is composed of four executives, eight building representatives and five general programs. There can be as many general programmers as there are student that would like to participate."

Some of the advantages of on-campus living are the ease and peace of mind of not driving and fighting for parking spots on campus, not worrying about roommates paying rent late and the community development provided by living in the dorms, Destache said.

"The community development is very different than most college places," Destache said. "There is way more opportunity to get involved at Maverick Village, not only with the hall council but with just going to programs and events."

VALERIE LOSEKE/RETROSPECT



ANDREA BARBE/RETROSPECT



Mammels donate new building for business

BY ANDREA CIUREJ

The UNO College of Business Administration will relocate from its current home at Roskens Hall to a new building on the Pacific Street campus by August 2010.

Louis Pol, dean of the College of Business Administration, said that the idea for a new building surfaced in the late '90s.

"We've had – for a very long time – all of these images about what a new building could mean for the students, the faculty and staff of the college," Pol said.

The \$38.5 million fundraising project includes \$31 million to construct the 120,000-square foot building, while \$7.5 million will be used to develop new programs and prepare the college for the transition.

Lead donors Carl and Joyce Mammel, for whom the building is named, were honored alongside Bill

and Ruth Scott for their donations at the groundbreaking ceremony held June 2, 2008.

"They don't just give money," Pol said. "They really care about the organizations and the people in those organizations who benefit from their gifts."

Pol said the ceremony emphasized the connection between the Mammels, the Scotts and the students.

"It's usually 10 guys in construction helmets with shovels with these goofy-looking smiles on their faces," Pol said. "So, our idea of

groundbreaking was Mr. Mammel, and to have either his current or past students involved in the groundbreaking with no helmets – they didn't need any helmets."

Summer 2010 is the expected completion of Mammel Hall, designed by Holland Basham Architects and Gensler.

The building will feature a five-story atrium, a 200-seat lecture hall, a corporate-style boardroom with an adjacent outdoor deck,

SEE MAMMEL: PAGE 16



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Former senator contributes to alma mater

BY JUDY RYDBERG

After retiring from the U.S. Senate, Chuck Hagel has strengthened his connection to his alma mater.

Last October, university officials announced that Hagel, R-Neb., would donate more than 3,000 boxes of his legislative papers to the Criss Library.

Library Dean Steve Shorb said Hagel's archives are valuable for research purposes and would serve as a window into our history.

"Hagel's papers are considered especially significant because he's the first and only UNO alumnus that's

been elected to the Senate," Shorb said. "His terms in office covered some very important aspects of our history: 9/11, wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, economic issues, you name it."

The collection includes more than Senate speeches, letters and memos, though. It also contains hundreds of framed photographs of Hagel with various political leaders, as well as gifts from foreign ambassadors.

"In many cultures around the world, gift giving is critically important, so we have a number of symbolic things: swords that were given to him

by ambassadors from the Middle East; a silk painting from Vietnam — that kind of thing," Shorb said. "It'll be something interesting for people to look at."

Starting next fall, Shorb said the library would likely begin displaying some of Hagel's photographs and political memorabilia.

In addition to

contributing his archives to UNO, Hagel has also decided to contribute his time.

Hagel accepted an appointment from the College of Public Affairs and Community Service as UNO's Distinguished Centennial Visiting Professor. As part of his visiting professor duties, he will appear in classrooms, attend forums and speak at various campus events.

The appointment was the brainchild of CPACS Dean B.J. Reed, who said the UNO community would benefit from having Hagel on its team.

Hagel, a 1971 CPACS graduate, served 12 years in the U.S. Senate. He is currently serving as a senior adviser to Omaha's McCarthy Capital Corp. as well as chairing the Atlantic Council, a non-partisan group focused on international affairs.

"I think you can gain from his immense experience in government, and his substantive background in everything from foreign relations to banking," Reed said. "Just a wide range of experience could add some

SEE HAGEL: PAGE 16



Student fee group increases Fund A budgets

BY SCOTT STEWART

The Student Activities Budget Commission and Student Senate approved a \$1.41 per student increase to Fund A University Programs and Facilities Fees for the 2009-10 academic year.

Fund A UPFF supports Student Government, its agencies, its Collegiate Readership Program, Maverick Productions and part of The Gateway.

The commission approved a \$47,929.42 overall increase in Fund A student fee generation, allocating \$504,937.42 in total. The specific allocations are:

- American Multicultural Students, \$6,102.75;
- Gender and Sexual Orientation, \$6,983.40;
- International Student Services, \$4,917.22;
- Network for disAbled Students, \$5,840.10;
- Women's Resource Center, \$4,485.65;
- Agency programming, \$40,221.50;
- Student Government operational, \$174,121.50;
- Student Government contingency, \$10,300;
- Maverick Productions, \$152,965.30; and

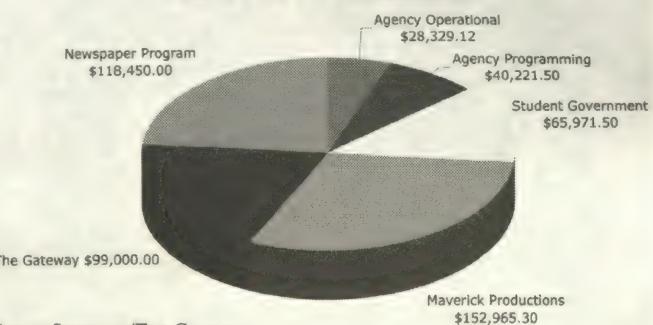
- The Gateway, \$99,000.

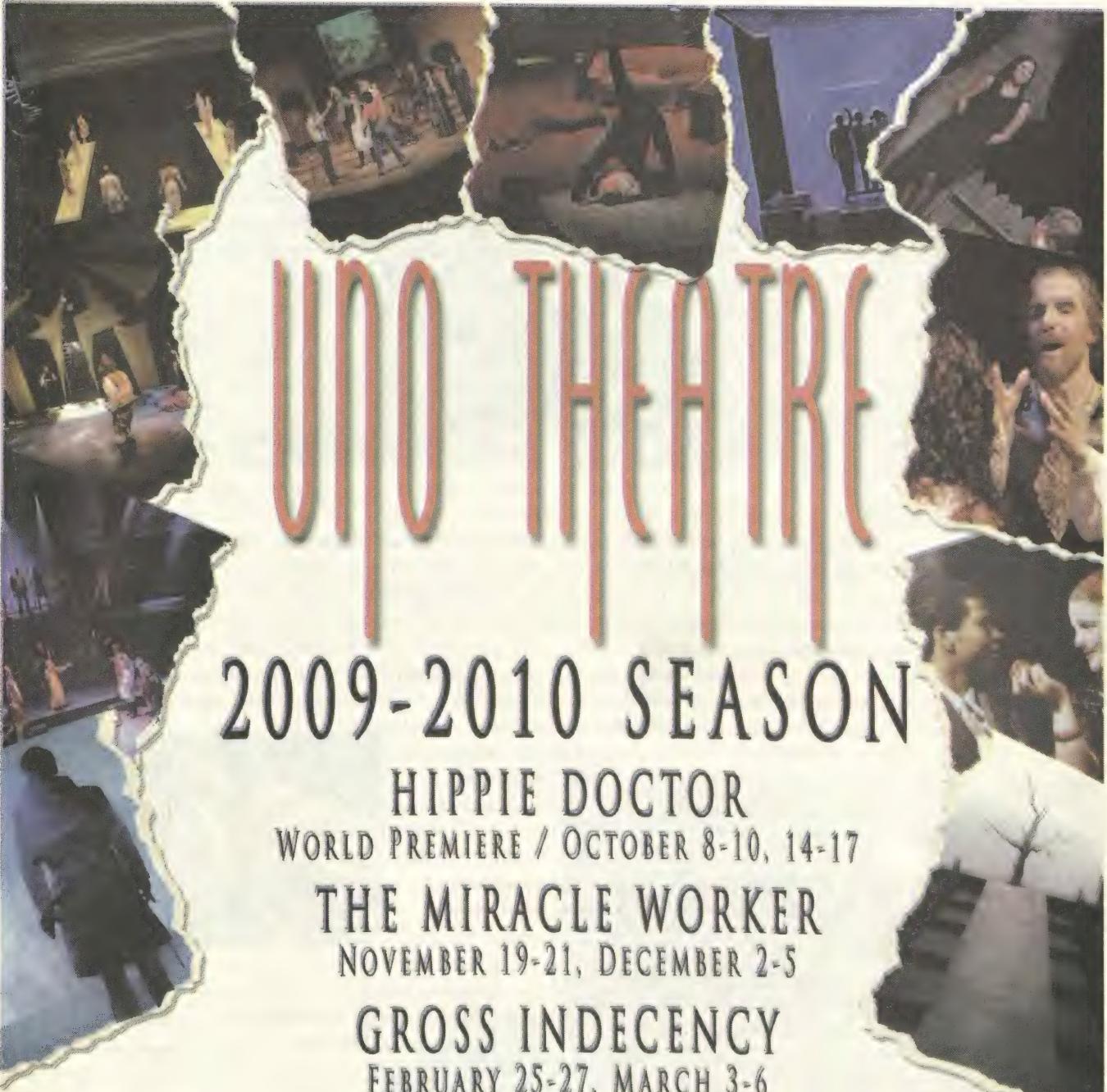
The agency programming budget is divided among the five groups with \$7,725 going to AMS; \$10,094 to GSO; \$8,240 to ISS; \$6,180 going to NdS; and \$7,982.50 to WRC.

The Student Government operational line item also includes an \$118,450 earmark for the Collegiate Readership Program, which brings copies of The New York Times, Omaha World-Herald and USA Today to students at the

SEE FEES: PAGE 16

Fund A UPFF Allocations





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★ Obama wins 2008 election ★

BY SCOTT STEWART

After one of the longest election cycles in American history, Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., was sworn-in as the 44th president of the United States on Jan. 20.

Obama defeated Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., in the general election by winning almost 53 percent of the popular vote and carrying 28 states, the District of Columbia and one additional electoral vote: the 2nd Congressional District of Nebraska, made up of Douglas and parts of Sarpy county.

The victory marked the first time in modern history a state split its electoral votes, with Nebraska awarding four of its five to McCain and the 2nd District's to Obama. The only other state that allows for its electoral votes to partly be decided by Congressional district is Maine.

Democrats had previously hoped to turn Nebraska "purple," a combination of blue and red used to symbolize Democratic and Republican states on the national electoral maps. Initially, it again looked like they'd not achieved



MICHELLE BISHOP/RETROSPECT

Democratic Party.

"Nebraska's 2nd District voters added an 'Obamaha' shaped exclamation point to Barack Obama's historic election," Nelson said. "It really is a new day in America when he even picks up an electoral vote in Nebraska."

Democrats had been disgruntled with the Bush administration for the last eight years and many UNO students rejoiced at the notion of a democrat in the White House.

"It was just electric," said Trisha Clark, president of the College

Democrats. "We got Obama in there, and we made history."

Republicans came into election night with optimism, but realized they needed an upset.

"I am not surprised by the result," said Alex Beckwith, chairman of the College Republicans.

Beckwith said he thought a major reason McCain lost was because the Republican Party got away from its core principles.

Another factor was the youth vote, which favored Obama, especially in key battleground states, according to national polls.

"Obama reached voters who hadn't been reached before," Clark said.



MICHELLE BISHOP/RETROSPECT

their goal, as McCain had led Obama by a few hundred votes in early partial counts.

Change soon came, though.

Sen. Ben Nelson, D-Neb., released a statement that summed up the excitement within the Nebraska

Affirmative action gone

BY TAYLOR MULLER

In November, Nebraska voters adopted a constitutional amendment to bar state and local governments from race- and sex-based affirmative action in hiring, contracting and admissions.

The initiative was passed in every one of Nebraska's 93 counties on Nov. 4 by an overall margin of 58 percent supportive to 42 percent against statewide, with more than 600,000 ballots cast.

State and city organizations are prohibited from "discriminating against, or granting preferential treatment to any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin in public employment, public education or public contracting," according to constitutional amendment.



BILL WENDL/RETROSPECT

The initiative caused local and state officials to re-examine procedures to ensure no programs violated the law. The constitutional amendment was adopted in December 2008 after being certified by Gov. Dave Heineman.

In response to the amendment's passage, the University of Nebraska Board of Regents unanimously passed a resolution confirming the university system's commitment to diversity within the legal parameters.

"The university will no longer be able to target and recruit Latinos in the way they have in the past. Second, students in the community will be getting the message that they are not welcome," said Jonathan Benjamin-

SEE INITIATIVE: PAGE 17

Campaigns make stops along election trail



MICHELLE BISHOP/RETROSPECT



KIRBY KAUFMAN/RETROSPECT

BY SCOTT STEWART

In a city that's usually forgotten about in national elections, three prominent politicians made stops in Omaha in advance of the 2008 general election.

Then-Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill.; then-Sen. Hillary Clinton, D-N.Y., and Gov. Sarah Palin, R-Alaska, all visited Omaha during the election, which had the largest voter turnout in state history — with 814,012 ballots counted, or 70.3 percent of registered voters.

Obama held a rally at the Civic Auditorium on Feb. 7, 2008, in advance of Nebraska's first Democratic Party caucus on Feb. 16. Clinton's daughter Chelsea had previously held a rally in Lincoln in November 2008.

In October, Palin made a surprise visit to Omaha on Oct. 7, speaking to a crowd at the Civic Auditorium's Music Hall.

"I have to admit, though, that I'm a little partial to the University of Nebraska at Omaha, the hockey team there," Palin said at the rally. "I don't know, maybe it is just the name of the team, which has such a nice ring to it this election year. I love that cheer: Go Mavericks."

Despite losing the Democratic primary to Obama, Clinton stopped in Omaha on Oct. 21 to give a speech for Girls Inc. and to hold a rally to support Obama. She addressed a crowd of about 3,200 at the Qwest Center.



JARED WESTBROOK/RETROSPECT

Independent presidential candidate Ralph Nader also visited Omaha, speaking at the Scott Conference Center on Oct. 10.

Voters in the 2nd Congressional District, which includes all of Douglas and part of Sarpy counties, supported Obama in the general election, splitting the state's electoral votes for the first time in modern history. Obama ultimately won the presidency, and appointed Clinton to Secretary of State.

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Students volunteer time, effort

BY SCOTT STEWART

Volunteerism is alive at UNO, with students participating in a variety of service-learning projects coordinated through the Service-Learning Academy, including its annual Seven Days of Service project over spring break.

Students also participated in the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service and the Fall Break Service Project. Incoming freshmen were also offered the opportunity to participate in the Durango Days Service Learning Project.

In addition to those projects, many students also have service-learning components in classes or participate in student organization-sponsored volunteer opportunities.



VALERIE LOSEKE/RETROSPECT



VALERIE LOSEKE/RETROSPECT

FALL SERVICE PROJECT

JODI PENN/RETROSPECT



SEVEN DAYS OF SERVICE



VALERIE LOSEKE/RETROSPECT

MLK DAY

JODI PENN/RETROSPECT



E-mail service will soon switch to Gmail

BY MARK REAGAN

Lotus Notes has been the standard for e-mail service at UNO for years, but the bane of many students' collegiate experience is now on its last leg.

Recent problems with Lotus Notes prompted Information Technology Services to review the service in conjunction with the Faculty Senate. The review recommended the university migrate to Google Apps for Education as a solution for student e-mail service.

"There's a lot of delays when you get e-mails," student Sen. Michael Crabb said of the Lotus Notes system. "It's a slow operating system and it's very slow to load."

Information Technology Services announced that, starting next fall, Google Apps — including the Gmail e-mail system — would be launched for new students. Current students will be able to opt-in to the new system.

Student Government gave the plans its thumbs-up earlier this spring.

Jan Boyer, chair of the Education Resources and Services Committee, was one of the people involved in the original Faculty Senate resolution that initially investigated a change from Lotus Notes.

Every year, the committee meets with Information Technology Services to voice input from the faculty about the technology products on campus, Boyer said. From this discussion, the committee decided to consider alternatives for e-mail service.

Despite the faculty's role in bringing about the change, the switch to Gmail will only include students at first. Faculty members will have to wait until the implementation of the new student information system before their e-mail accounts are changed from Lotus Notes.

"I do know that they were very careful as they looked at this

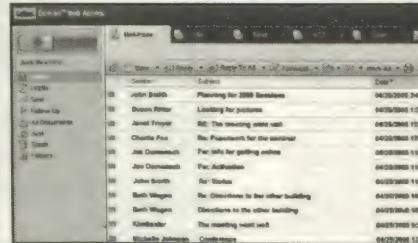
implementation to make certain that whatever they selected — because they looked at other things besides Gmail — would work with Blackboard and all of those communication things," Boyer said. "I feel comfortable from what I've been told that it should work as well or better than the Lotus Notes."

Laura

Baumgartner,

a political-science junior, approves of the switch because of Lotus Notes' unreliability. Google Apps for Education should function better late at night, she said.

"I'm really happy to hear that they chose Google, because it is a reliable company," Baumgartner said. "I'm really glad we're switching over. I'm glad UNO is taking steps into the future."



COURTESY IBM

Acid spill causes scare

BY SCOTT STEWART

A freak accident resulted in a hazardous materials team showing up to the Durham Science Center to help a student who had battery acid spill onto her.

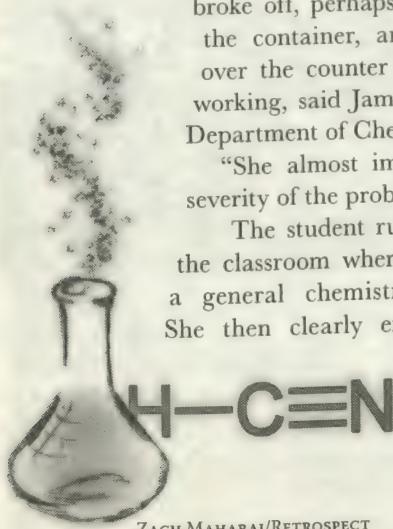
A UNO undergraduate student picked up a 10-ounce bottle of sulfuric acid on Jan. 26 to dilute the chemical for classroom laboratory experiments.

It was then that the bottom of the bottle broke off, perhaps due to an impurity in the container, and spilled the acid all over the counter where the student was working, said James Carroll, chair of the Department of Chemistry.

"She almost immediately realized the severity of the problem," Carroll said.

The student rushed across the hall to the classroom where Carroll was teaching a general chemistry laboratory section. She then clearly explained the problem, and Carroll took immediate action.

After assessing the situation,
SEE ACID: PAGE 17



ZACH MAHARAJ/RETROSPECT

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FROM MAMMEL: PAGE 9

spacious areas for small-group collaboration and versatile classrooms with cutting-edge technology. It will also include state-of-the-art laboratories for investment science, collaboration science, innovation and entrepreneurship, accounting, as well as statistics and computing.

The facility will feature Nebraska Business Development Center offices and classrooms, space for executive and professional development curricula and house international-business programs.

"It's not only going to be physically attractive, but it will be the kind of place that you say, 'You know, I feel comfortable here. I'd like to stay here,'" Pol said.

Mammel Hall will also be the first Leadership in Energy and Design-certified building on campus, meaning the building will have a healthy and environmentally responsible atmosphere.

It is one of only four LEED-certified buildings across the University of Nebraska system.

"We all know that this a good practice and will be beneficial in terms of branding for UNO," said George Killian, the campus architect. "What we don't know at this time is how to measure the importance and

benefits of having a LEED-certified building for the university."

Killian has been working "non-stop" with major campus projects since he started almost four years ago.

"I feel blessed to be an ongoing part of a major campus transformation through construction for UNO," Killian said. "We get to help influence the student-faculty-staff experience through our design for these buildings that I would like to see stand the test of time."

However, the "true bonus" of Mammel Hall is the location.

The building will be surrounded by businesses such as First Data Corp., Marriott Courtyard Hotel, Blue Cross Blue Shield and Aksarben Village. It will also be located a stone's throw



ANDREA CIUREJ/RETROSPECT

from the Peter Kiewit Institute, which houses UNO's information science, technology and engineering programs.

Freshman real-estate major Qianqian Chen hopes the building will trigger more internship opportunities and a business-like atmosphere.

"I hope it will be more professional, where we can feel like a real business market," Chen said.

Junior economics major James Policky, a Metropolitan Community College transfer student, said Roskens Hall is a suitable facility for the time being, though.

"UNO has a good reputation for a business college," Policky said. "It presents very well [as a business college] and it's very professional."

FROM INITIATIVE: PAGE 13

Alvarado, assistant director for research and outreach in the Office of Latino/Latin American Studies at UNO.

In December, Paul Landow, Omaha Mayor Mike Fahey's chief of staff, said personnel hiring would not be affected, but certain city subcontract programs would need to be reworked.

"We've been meeting to find ways to work around it, revamp the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program and work around this," Landow said. "Our goal is still to encourage minority participation in

city contracts. We've just been meeting to figure out where our programs stand."

Nebraska was not alone in considering such measures.

Colorado voters struck down a similar initiative in November, also organized by Ward Connerly and his organizations, the American Civil Rights Institute and the American Civil Rights Coalition. Connerly is a California businessman and former University of California regent.

"We don't believe there will be a significant impact," said Mike



BILL WENDL/RETROSPECT

McCrory, director of State Personnel for Nebraska's Administrative Service. "However, we are working with the state attorney general's office and having the appropriate legal staff take an in-depth look for potential implications."

FROM HAGEL: PAGE 10

significant value to the campus."

On April 7, Hagel was scheduled to make his first appearance as a visiting professor in the CPACS Building Collaborative Commons. He led a discussion on the role of public servants.

After the discussion, Hagel was inducted into Omicron Delta Kappa during a luncheon hosted by UNO's chapter of the prestigious leadership society.

Hagel was only in town a short time, but Reed said he hopes the former senator will be able to come back next fall to speak at a class or do a symposium.

"He's very interested in engaging students. When he's in town, they have ... access to him that I think he's really going to enjoy," Reed said. "So there are some real benefits to us and, hopefully, some real benefits to him. It all keeps him connected to the campus."

FROM FEES: PAGE 10

cost of \$3.48 per student.

The allocations for Maverick Productions equate to \$4.49 per student, and \$2.91 per student will support The Gateway.

"It's a reasonable increase," said Wade Robinson, associate vice chancellor of Student Affairs. "I'm very comfortable with what you've asked for, because I know the history and the reasoning behind it."

FROM ACID: PAGE 15

Carroll took the student to an emergency shower in the laboratory and held her under cold water while using sodium bicarbonate – baking soda – to neutralize the acid.

Campus Security arrived quickly, Carroll said, and a student in his class called emergency services. Minutes later, Omaha Fire and Rescue responded to the Durham Science Center.

The student was taken to the Nebraska Medical Center, where she was released after a couple hours, Carroll said.

Sulfuric acid, H_2SO_4 , is an extremely corrosive, colorless, odorless liquid commonly used in lead-acid car batteries among many other industrial applications.

While smaller accidents are somewhat common, Carroll said, accidents



JAMES CARROLL

of this scale are unusual. Nevertheless, student workers receive additional safety training to prepare for incidents like the acid spill.

"An accident of this magnitude is very freaky," Carroll said. "It happens when you're present once or twice in your career."

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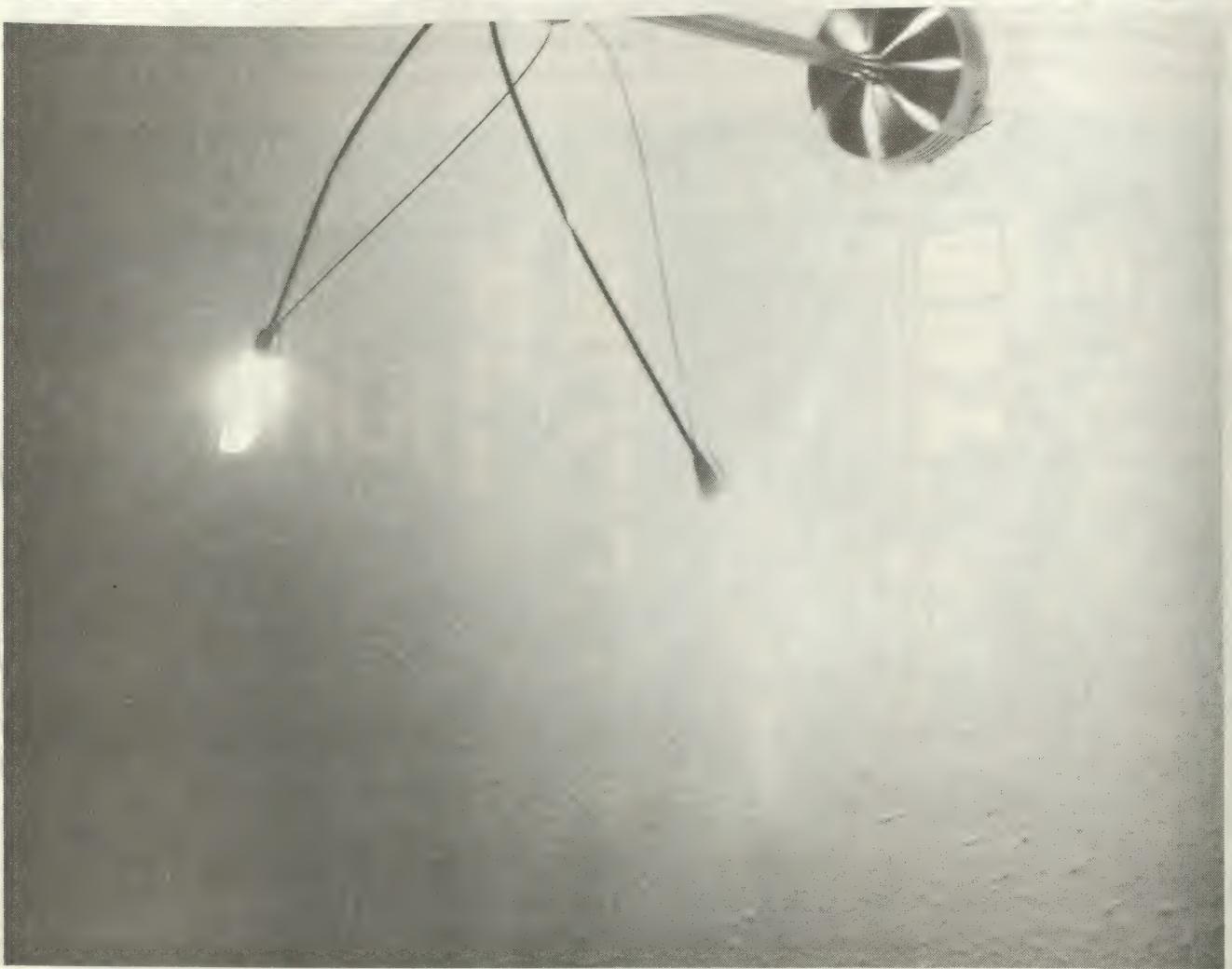
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ENTERTAINMENT



Twittering into heart of modern communication, students' lives

BY ANDREA BARBE

With the growth of popular social networking and blogging Web sites, a new form of communication has taken the technology-savvy world by storm.

Twitter is a free, Web-based service used to communicate with co-workers, friends and loved ones, much like Facebook and MySpace, but through short, to-the-point messages. These text-based posts, often called "tweets," allow users to send updates to their Twitter profile page.

As of Feb. 9, Twitter was ranked third, behind Facebook and MySpace, as the most used social-networking site available today, according compete.com.

"Social networking presents a different set of standards. It isn't good or bad. It's just different," Tim Kaldahl,

director of University Relations, said to the Gateway in November. "Some information lends itself to the means of communication."

Kaldahl and University Relations' assistant director Wendy Townley have found these Web sites to help connect them with students better and notify them of upcoming events, school closings and other various UNO-related activities.

"Facebook allows students to post their interests and school organization affiliations," Townley said. "Also, most students with Facebook list their cell phone numbers, so I can reach them between classes and get a message to them quickly."

Senior Guy White uses all three networking sites to keep in touch with friends and communicate with co-workers off the clock.

"I signed up for Twitter like a year ago in March or April," White said. "My boss [at WOWT] told me about it and wanted 'The Omaha Buzz' to have an account so others could see what events we were going to be at next. It was work related."

**It isn't
good
or bad.
It's just
different"**

TIM
KALDAHL

White admits that he checks his Facebook more frequently since they installed the chat feature, but he uses his Twitter account primarily to connect with work activities.

"I'm not sure who told me this," White said. "But you gotta tweet to eat."

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COURTESY MYSPACE.COM/KATYPERRY

APRIL 28 - Disney star Miley Cyrus, 15, appeared semi-nude in a *Vanity Fair* photo spread. Cyrus and photographer Annie Leibovitz received a lot of criticism after a photo of Cyrus surfaced of the teen bare-breasted, wrapped in a bed sheet.

APRIL 29

- Katy Perry's song "I Kissed a Girl" debuted on iTunes and two months later, rose to No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart.

MAY 21 - Missouri native David Cook won Fox's reality hit "American Idol" after auditioning for the show at the Qwest Center Omaha.

JUNE 1 - Yves Saint Laurent, iconic French fashion designer, died of brain cancer at age 71.

JUNE 13 - NBC News Washington bureau chief Tim Russert, 58, died of a heart attack while recording voiceovers for his Sunday broadcast of "Meet the Press," a show that he moderated since 1991.

JUNE 19 - Britney Spears' 17-year-old sister Jamie Lynn gave birth to daughter, Maddie Briann Aldridge, who weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces.

JUNE 22 - Comedian George Carlin, best known for his 1978 comedy routine "Seven Dirty Words," died of

heart failure at age 71.

JUNE 25 - A sex tape was leaked featuring Verne Troyer, better known as Mini-Me from the "Austin Powers" series, and his former live-in girlfriend.

JULY 12 - Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie gave birth to twins, boy Knox Léon Jolie-Pitt and girl Vivienne Marcheline, in Nice, France.

JULY 18 - "The Dark Knight" debuted in theaters, breaking box office records with more than \$155.3 million in sales on opening weekend.

JULY 27 - "Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull" actor Shia LaBeouf was arrested for drunk driving in Los Angeles after a car collision in which LaBeouf injured his hand. LaBeouf was later cited for misdemeanor driving under the influence.

AUG. 9 - Comedian Bernie Mac died at age 50 from pneumonia complications. Mac starred in several TV shows and movies including "The Original Kings of Comedy" with fellow comedians Steve Harvey, Cedric the Entertainer and D.L. Hughley.

AUG. 10 - U.S. swimmer Michael Phelps won his first gold medal in the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing. By the end of the week, Phelps had earned eight gold medals, surpassing Mark Spitz's

previous record of seven medals.

AUG. 28 - Former "X-Files" star David Duchovny checked into a rehabilitation facility for sexual addiction treatment.

SEPT. 2 - New Kids on the Block, popular boy band in the 1980s and 1990s, released their new album titled "The Block," their first release in more than a decade.

SEPT. 2 - The CW Network brought back teen drama "90210," a remake of the '90s hit show starring Jennie Garth, Shannon Doherty and Luke Perry.

SEPT. 13 - "Saturday Night Live" aired a parody featuring Tina Fey as Gov. Sarah Palin and Amy Poehler as then-Sen. Hillary Clinton. Fey's spot-on impression of Palin had audiences buzzing for weeks. The SNL writer, producer and actress reprised her role as Palin two more times before the 2008 election.



COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA

OCT. 8 - Playboy founder Hugh Hefner and girlfriends Holly Madison, Bridget Marquardt and Kendra Wilkinson ended their relationships. The magazine mogul and his ladies starred on E! Entertainment's reality show "The Girls Next

ANDREA BARBE PRESENTS THE

Entertainment

Door" for five seasons.

OCT. 15 - Madonna and Guy Ritchie filed for divorce. The couple had been together since 1999 after being introduced through mutual friend Sting.

OCT. 24 - Darnell and Jason Donerson, mother and brother to "Dreamgirls" singer and former "American Idol" finalist Jennifer Hudson, were found shot to death in Chicago. Authorities later found Hudson's nephew, Julian King, murdered after issuing an Amber Alert for the 7-year-old. Hudson's estranged brother-in-law William Balfour was arrested for the crimes.

OCT. 24 - "High School Musical 3: Senior Year" opened in theaters across the U.S. and earned \$42 million on opening weekend.

NOV. 16 - MTV's "Total Request Live" celebrated its last show with a three-hour finale.

NOV. 21 - "Twilight" premiered in theaters, earning \$70.5 million opening weekend. The movie was based off of a vampire romance novel of the same name.



NOV. 25 - Former E! Correspondent Brooke Burke out-danced NFL defensive tackle Warren Sapp to win ABC's seventh season of "Dancing with the Stars."

NOV. 25 - People magazine dubbed Hugh Jackman "Sexiest Man Alive" for 2008.

DEC. 5 - Former NFL star O.J. Simpson was sentenced to a minimum of nine years in prison after committing numerous felonies, including robbery, assault with a deadly weapon, kidnapping and coercion in Las Vegas.

DEC. 9 - NBC announced that comedian Jay Leno will host a new prime-time TV talk show in 2009 that will air weeknights at 10 p.m. "The Tonight Show" host had originally announced plans to retire from the show this year.

JAN. 20 - Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., was inaugurated as the 44th President of the United States. Obama is also the first African American to be elected president.

JAN. 31 - Photos of Olympic swimming champion Michael Phelps

smoking weed through a bong were leaked to the press. Less than a week later, USA Swimming suspended Phelps from competition for three months.

FEB. 22 - The 81st annual Academy Awards aired live on ABC. "Slumdog Millionaire" won eight Oscars, the most awards of the night, including Best Picture.

Feb. 26 - New England Patriots Quarterback Tom Brady and model Gisele Bundchen wed at the St. Monica Catholic Church in Santa Monica, Calif.

MARCH 2 - ABC's "The Bachelor" came to an end when account executive Jason Mesnick proposed to former Dallas Cowboy Cheerleader Melissa Rycroft. However, on the two-hour finale, Mesnick broke off his engagement with Rycroft, saying that he still had feelings for runner-up Molly Malaney.

MARCH 18 - Actress Natasha Richardson, 45, died from a head injury after taking skiing lessons with her two sons in Quebec, Canada.

APRIL 2 - NBC's medical drama "ER" aired its final episode. The Emmy-award winning drama, created by Michael Crichton, spanned 15 seasons.

APRIL 4 - Heavy metal rock band Metallica, rap pioneers Run-DMC, guitarist Jeff Beck, soul singer Bobby Womack and rhythm and blues vocal group Little Anthony and the Imperials were all inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Timeline

Students, alumni build on artistic success

BY TOM MCCAULEY

The UNO Art Gallery exposed students and the Omaha community to the energy and diversity within the contemporary art world, from artists who work with defined social messages to those interested in pushing the conceptual boundaries of their mediums.

The gallery, located on the first floor of the Weber Fine Arts Building, featured a dynamic mix of social and contemporary artists.

The 2008-09 season began on Aug. 29 with a joint exhibit by Rebecca Keller and Lanny DeVuono. Keller's work displayed storytelling using symbolism to connect to the recent social and political tragedies of Hurricane Katrina and the Iraq War.

DeVuono's oil paintings

Richard Murcek, Joe Pankowski and Josh Powell.

The "UNO and Beyond: Art Student Alumni Exhibition" followed on Oct. 12 and showcased works from more than 50 fine arts alumni as part of the centennial celebration. The exhibit placed special emphasis on the works of Margaret Krug, painter and senior lecturer at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City.

One of Krug's paintings titled "Persimmon Dress," depicted a sky-blue dress caught in an updraft above a persimmon tree. The piece was a favorite of Art and Art History Department secretary Susan Kurtz.

"That, to me, is the definition of art," Kurtz said.

From Jan. 16 to Feb. 18, the gallery hosted the Faculty Art Show, which featured the works of past and present art faculty. Former UNO sculpture professor Sidney Buchanan contributed a number of works, including "Coffee Chair with Table," a collision between a chair and coffee table on a checkered floor. Studio art professor David Helm created an untitled piece made by pouring a latex rubber mix into cheesecloth.

One of the most popular events of the year was the Student Art Exhibit from Feb. 27 to April 3. The show was a juried exhibit, meaning students submitted work to be considered by a juror unaffiliated with the Art and Art History Department. The juror then decided which works were to be presented in the show. This ensured that judging was based

on creative merit, not favoritism.

During the exhibit's opening reception, Art and Art History Department interim chairman Bob Carlson awarded scholarships to several students, including senior Laurie Sewell and junior Maggie Svoboda, for their talent and hard work.



VALERIE LOSEKE/THE RETROSPECT

Sewell said submitting work to the art exhibit is a crucial and exciting experience for aspiring artists.

Svoboda added that having a juried student exhibit gives students a chance to show their art in a real world setting, which motivates them to succeed.

"I think it's awesome that we get to show the UNO community what we have been doing," Svoboda said.

Former chairman David Helm said the Student Art Exhibit is a vital feature of the art degree program.

"The show exemplifies the significance of the creative spirit and how it is affiliated with all the other disciplines on campus, particularly the sciences, philosophy and psychology," Helm said.

Lastly, the gallery will feature the Spring 2009 BFA exhibition with works from students Ryan Carroll, Angela Drakeford, Ramanda Fuelberth and Ashley Rodriguez-Reed.



displayed the mark of humans on the environment.

The art gallery also showcased the creative pursuits of senior art students. The Fall 2008 Bachelor of Fine Arts Exhibition featured the thesis projects of undergraduate students Shaun Benak, Jason Heida,

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UNO Theatre sets stage for variety of plays

BY ANDREA BARBE

The UNO Theatre Department completed a year full of love, tragedy, humor and everything in between.

The 2008-09 season opened with "Picasso at the Lapin Agile," a comedy by Steve Martin set at the Lapin Agile bar where Pablo Picasso and Albert Einstein discussed creative outlets for both of their geniuses when they're greeted by Elvis Presley.

"Picasso" was directed by adjunct theater faculty member Amy Lane, but she's no stranger to the UNO stage. Lane also directed the drama "Reckless" in 2007. "Picasso" is, at its heart, a play about dreams - about the ability to make dreams, no matter how large or small, a reality," Lane said in her director's notes. "In the play, we are introduced to two young geniuses, Albert Einstein and Pablo Picasso, at the brink of monumental creations, each of which will change the world forever."

In late November and early December, the drama "Women of Troy" was performed. The story picks up where the Trojan War ended, when only the women were left to be enslaved by the Spartans and left to clean up the mess while facing some trying times.

Sophomore Amy Schweid played Cassandra, the daughter of King Priam of Troy who had just been

murdered.

"[Cassandra] looks for justice, not hope," Schweid said in November.

Director Maire Creegan made her main stage directorial debut as part of her graduate thesis work and said that the script translates to modern times.

"The Women of Troy" is a timeless story that still resonates today," Creegan said. "It is about mourning, loss and hope and

first play of 2009 and an untraditional one for most of the cast.

The play opened with Vladimir and Estragon, two individuals waiting for their friend Godot, who never

do that, but when they get out in world of professional theater, these roles normally go to older people. This is an equal opportunity university."

Senior Christopher Harris, who played Vladimir, said he hoped the audience doesn't pick apart the script or the new changes.

"There's nothing except the relationships that are on the stage," Harris told the Gateway in February. "That's what this play is about. That's what we think Beckett is trying to say with it. There is so much absurdity in the world and all you have to get you through is each other."

Lastly, the season wrapped with the Shakespearean classic "A Midsummer Night's Dream," a romantic comedy about four Athenian lovers and fairies that inhabit a moonlit forest.

Senior Raydell Cordell III played dual roles in the spring play as both Oberon, King of the Fairies, and Theseus, Duke of Athens.

"The real challenge of this play is how physically demanding it is. Our set is physically demanding," Cordell said. "The actors and technicians took a lot of time to coordinate the costumes and the set, fulfilling what the play is all about. It's just amazing."



COURTESY OF UNO THEATRE

what they learn from loss."

In fact, the theater department performed "Women of Troy" in March for the 41st annual Region V Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival held in Lawrence, Kan. "Women of Troy" was chosen over the four other competing schools to advance onto the Region V festival. The group, consisting of 40 students and seven faculty members, presented their play at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., in April.

Samuel Beckett's "Waiting for Godot" was the theater department's



arrives. This tragic comedy typically casts older males in the lead roles, but since none of the actors were older than age 25, director Douglas Paterson said he had to change the script. Instead, he cast females for both Estragon and supporting character Lucky.

"You can educate younger people to play older people," Paterson said. "That's useful and they could



Students, faculty join together in unique experience of covering historic election

BY CHARLEY REED

Most people remember where they were when Barack Obama secured enough votes to become the 44th president of the United States.

For several dozen UNO faculty, staff and students, that place was reporting the news as it happened live. As part of the 2008 presidential elections, the UNO School of Communication produced two key projects: the Omaha News' election special and election blog.

As a special episode of the long-running Omaha News program, filmed at UNO's television studio and coordinated by broadcasting instructors Chris Allen and Michael Hilt, dozens of students joined the major broadcast networks in covering the election.

"It's hard to describe what it was like now," said senior Karl Johnson, who helped anchor the four-hour-and-18-minute broadcast. "No matter how scared you made yourself going into it, it wasn't scared enough."

While the students had worked on newscasts before, the election program was different. It was impossible to predict any of the news they were reporting on.

"One of the most memorable aspects was when we finally took Obama's speech," said senior Maureen Kaufmann, one of the show's two interviewers. "It took forever for him to do his acceptance speech and we were running out of things to put into the broadcast."

While much of it was all on the fly, Hilt explained that extensive preparation was necessary.

"We did a special during [Spring 2008] on primaries and for both the democrats and the Republicans, but we were laying the groundwork for the fall program," Hilt said.

At the Northwest Broadcast News Association conference in March several students joined Allen, whose advanced broadcast journalism class regularly



COURTESY OF OMAHA NEWS

runs the Omaha News, in accepting a first-place award for their broadcast.

"It was totally a team effort," Allen said. "To have the entire team recognized for the award is a great feeling."

While more than 30 students helped run the election program, more than a dozen were running an online blog on the Omaha News' Web site.

School of Communication Director Jeremy Lipschultz explained that the blog, which has been in operation since 2004, offers something different to the Omaha community.

"We've sent students to where the people are. We've sent

students to restaurants, to taverns, to locations where you just find everyday people," Lipschultz said. "We're really trying to reach beyond those traditional boundaries to reach people where they are." The 2008 blog was coordinated by Karen Weber, a lecturer whose public affairs reporting class shouldered most of the work. But with only eight students, Weber had to call for outside help from the entire school to make the project successful.

"I think many students were pleased that they were able to get a real story that they could add to their portfolio," Weber said. "When they were able to see their stories posted on the blog then it gives them something they can be proud of."

Senior Jesse Kuhnle, a Gateway contributor, was in Weber's class and participated in the blog project as a reporter.

"It was pretty cool being involved in that capacity," Kuhnle said. "Rather than sitting and watching the news happening or sitting and reading about this happening you were reporting on real news."

And that real-world experience is, Weber said, what both programs ultimately contribute to everyone who is involved.

"I think that's what's really important, is that students in the School of Communication are able to put the skills that they learn in the classroom and put them in a real-world setting," Weber said. "They can only learn from that."

Archives of UNO's 2008 election coverage from the Omaha News and the election blog can be seen at unomaha.edu/theomahanews/election.php

**"No matter
how scared you
made yourself
going into it, it
wasn't scared
enough"**

KARL JOHNSON

In tune with UNO music

BY ANDREA BARBE

The UNO Music department wrapped another year full of concerts, special awards and trips that took students and faculty across the globe.

As the Spring 2008 semester was coming to a close, students and faculty members active in the jazz combo left for Lithuania. The group participated in the 60th Anniversary Celebration of the UNO and Siauliai University's sister university partnership. Matthew Harden, director of Choral Activities, was also involved in the celebration and served as a guest conductor for Lithuania's professional choir, "Polifonija."

The UNO Symphonic Wind Ensemble also traveled out of the country. In May 2008, the group left for a two-week tour of Europe to perform in the Czech Republic where they played in the annual ceremony commemorating the end of World War II.

On Sept. 4, the Strauss Performing Arts Center's Recital Hall held the second annual Iron Composer Competition in which student composers from across the nation were encouraged to submit their original musical scores.

The judges chose "Impressions of Wallpaper," by Hermes Camacho of Austin, Texas, as winner of Iron Composer Omaha 2008.

"I'm thrilled to win and I can't believe how wonderful everyone in Omaha has

been," Camacho said in the "Between the Measures" newsletter put out by UNO. "The Monument Trio was fabulous and the hospitality we've received from the UNO Music Department is outstanding. Iron Composer was awesome."

The UNO Percussion Ensemble traveled to Japan in November to visit Shizuoka University, UNO's oldest sister university. A joint concert between the ensemble and the Japanese percussion group, known as Sticks and Mallets, was included in the group's activities.

In December, Timothy Vallier, a music theory graduate assistant, received third place in the Young Artist Division of the Music Teachers National Association 2008-09 Composition Competition, a three-tiered event. Vallier's composition, "Two Stylized Dances for Saxophone Quartet and Drum Set" won the second stage of the competition that included entries within an eight-state region. Joshua Green of the University of Delaware was selected as the First Place winner, but Vallier received praise from judges for his "exciting music."

UNO hosted the 37th annual Great Plains Jazz Festival on Feb. 20 and 21. Three \$1,000 scholarships were awarded to future UNO students. Author and jazz history scholar Tom Larson conducted a lecture on the art of jazz at the Holland Performing Arts Center. The UNO jazz

SEE MUSIC: PAGE 30

Remembering April Bishop

BY ANDREA BARBE

It was a sad summer for the UNO music department when they learned one of their alumnas had abruptly passed away.

Recent UNO graduate April Bishop, 21, was found dead in her Falls City, Neb., apartment on June 20, 2008. Bishop, who was an active member of the UNO Marching Band, had just graduated summa cum laude in May with a bachelor's degree in music. She had just accepted a job at the Falls City Middle and High School as a band director.

Investigators said Bishop died of asphyxiation. Bishop had been complaining of an upset stomach the night before and was believed to have choked to death, according to the Omaha World-Herald.

When she failed to appear at a performance of "The Wizard of Oz" at Omaha's Rose Theater, family members knew something was wrong. Bishop played the French horn in the show's pit orchestra. On June 22, the cast and crew dedicated their performance to Bishop.

"April was one of the first people I met at UNO. She was amazing. She was uniquely herself, former UNO student Ashley Pettengill said to the Gateway in June. Pettengill was a close friend of Bishops.

SEE BISHOP: PAGE 30

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UNO students, faculty key part of OEA awards

BY ANDREA BARBE

It was another big year for artists and entertainers in the metro area at this year's third annual Omaha Entertainment and Arts Awards.

The event was held on Jan. 8 at the Holland Performing Arts Center downtown, where several artists were rewarded for their success in 2008.

In the fall, nominees were voted on by the general public and then narrowed down to the top five candidates for each category. From there, an OEA committee votes on their choice to win and the most votes wins the category.

Several nominees and winners from this year's OEAs have ties to UNO, including Brent Crampton, former Gateway columnist and UNO alumnus. Crampton won the "Best DJ" award, making him three for three in the category.

"It was definitely an honor to be awarded," Crampton said. "It's nice to have those types of things as a community to recognize and bring attention to Omaha doing great things for the culture. It's the only time of year when all of those people from all different art disciplines and entertainment areas are under the same roof. It's a really nice gathering of industry people."

Other OEA winners include fellow UNO alumnus Matt Carlson, who won for "Best Emerging Visual Artist" for his works at the Bemis Underground, and UNO's The Moving Company, who took home "Best Local Dance Production" for "Spared From the Storm," a dance they performed at Joslyn and at the OEA award show. Little Brazil walked away with the "Best Rock" category while the Black Squirrels won for "Best Roots/Folk/Country/Americana/Bluegrass." Both

musical groups have at least one band member who graduated from UNO.

Art and Art History assistant professor Wanda Ewing was nominated for several awards in the Visual Arts category, including "Best Solo Show" and "Best 2-D Artist" for her artwork titled "Bougie Show," which was on display at the Sheldon Museum of Art at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. Ewing was also nominated for "Best Visual Artist."

In addition to the award winners, UNO students and faculty worked behind the scenes to make the award show possible. B. J. Huchtemann, who's a producer and director for UNO Television as well as a writer for *The Reader*, was selected to be on the music academy for the OEAs three years ago. Huchtemann said one of her proudest moments from this year's ceremony was getting to present the Hall of Fame Awards for live music.

"UNO Television was asked to provide footage of Preston Love Sr., who's deceased now," Huchtemann said to the Gateway in January. "I did a three hour interview with Preston as part of the 'Omaha Since World War II: the Changing Face of the City' piece we did. It was a wonderful interview. We were really thrilled to provide that to the board. Those interview clips that ran in the piece that they showed [while] presenting the award to his son, Preston Love Jr. That really made me smile, being able to do that."

Since its start, the OEAs have made a few changes to its ceremony. Last year,

58 winners received awards while only 46 were awarded this year. WOWT sportscaster Dave Webber served as the official host of the OEAs compared with numerous guest presenters from previous years. Organizers hoped this would shave down the length of the ceremony. "The key difference is the focus on the award show itself," said OEA Board President Matt Oberst. "To create a shortened format where a lot of impact

and still recognize close to 50 different categories of awards and try to do all of that within a 90-minute time



COURTESY OF CHRIS MACHIAN



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COURTESY OF BILL SITZMAN

frame. We whittled down the time from four hours to close to two hours. We didn't make our 90 minute window, but we certainly didn't have the marathon that we've had in the past."

Although the OEAs come only once a year, Oberst offered advice to Omahans about supporting the local art community.

"There are many ways we can show our support and I encourage everyone to put on their New Years resolution to go see one more play, see one more gallery opening, listen to one more band," he said.

TRADITION KEEPS UNO DANCE GROUP CELEBRATED

BY J.L. HOTOVY

With a lengthy history and a love for dance, one UNO organization has kept on grooving to the music throughout the years.

The Moving Company, originally named Orchesis, has been a staple at UNO since 1935 and earned the distinction of being one of the oldest modern dance organizations in the United States. Members of the company have been trying to keep that tradition alive.

Professor Josie Metal-Corbin is the current director of the Moving Company and joined the group after a job transfer landed her at UNO.

"I came in 1980, and was previously teaching in Pennsylvania, as the assistant director to Dr.

ceremony for their collaborative work on "Spared from the Storm." The dance was performed at Joslyn Art Museum in September 2007 and based off of items saved from Hurricane Katrina in the New Orleans Masterpieces exhibit.

"We felt joy joyous after the win," Metal-Corbin told the Gateway in April.

Kara Gilmore, a 10-year veteran dancer within the company, said the after it was announced the group had won, she ran up to Metal-Corbin and said "You Won," to which Metal-Corbin responded, "No, we won."

While UNO does not offer dance as a major or a minor, the Moving Company has a significant number

Holland Performing Arts Center, the Henry Doorly Zoo, ARTery, the Omaha Public Library and other academic programs within the UNO system.

"Involving the community is the hallmark of the Moving Company program," said Stephanie Kelley, a UNO alumna who has been dancing with the company for 10 years.

The Moving Company was also part of UNO's Centennial events. Theatre students and dancers performed "Tableaux Vivants" at the Qwest Center Omaha on Feb. 21. The dance was choreographed to depict scenes from the first 100 years of UNO's existence.

Then on March 9, the Criss Library hosted the Moving Company's photo exhibit, "A Legacy of Dancers: 1935-2008." This collection of 66 archival photos, maintained by UNO archivist Les Valentine, documented the history of the university dance group. In 2010, this collection will become a permanent exhibit in the newly renovated Health, Physical Education and Recreation building. By that time, the Moving Company will be celebrating its 75th anniversary.

Nebraska Educational Telecommunications, or NETV, will also air a documentary on the dance organization in spring 2010.

But for now, Metal-Corbin and the rest of the Moving Company will keep on dancing and keeping part of UNO history alive.

"Josie keeps us performing so much and it's hard to remember all of the wonderful performances," Gilmore said. "We are all so thankful for her work and dedication to us and the moving company. It keeps us all where we love to be - on stage."

Andrea Barbe contributed to this report.



JOE SHEARER/RETROSPECT

[Vera] Lundahl, was the professor in [Health, Physical Education and Recreation]," Metal-Corbin said. "When Dr. Lundahl retired, I took over directorship."

The dance ensemble, which currently has about 25 active members between the ages of 18 and 50, has been gaining popularity within the past couple of years. In January, the Moving Company won "Best Local Dance Production" at the Omaha Entertainment and Arts award

of students who join the group just for their strong love of dance.

"The Moving Company is strictly an extracurricular activity and this fact is a tribute to the members," Metal-Corbin said. "They aren't getting academic credit for it. It's all driven by personal passion."

In addition to performances at Joslyn Art Museum, the group has performed in almost every major institution like the Bemis Underground,

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Distinguished Research & Creative Activity

Robert Smith

Outstanding Graduate Mentor Award

James Thorson

Outstanding Faculty Service-Learning Award

Patricia Carlson

Outstanding Teaching Awards

*Nora Bacon
Frank Bramlett
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David Volkman
Joanne Sowell
Mike Messerole
Massoum Moussavi
Sandy Vlasnik
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Metro bars, venues close

BY JILLIAN ENDEBROCK

With the current recession hitting consumers in their pocket books, many Omaha residents are spending less time and money for a night out on the town. But these trying times are making it hard for local businesses, like clubs, bars or music venues, to stay afloat.

Since the beginning of the year, four venues have closed their doors and more closings are expected to follow.

Citrus Lounge, located at 14616 W. Center Road, closed its doors on Jan. 3. Mick's Music & Bar in Benson marked its last day on Jan. 24 after five years in business. Other venues, like the Goofy Foot Lodge, 1012 S. 10th St., issued a statement saying the bar is currently closed without any knowledge of re-opening in the near future.

The most recent closing, however, was Club Nico, a popular West Omaha hot spot, which shut down business on Feb. 13.

However, unlike other area venues, Nico was financially stable, said Event Coordinator Deanna Janicek. Even with economic problems, Janicek said the club's attendance remained, but it was owner Ralph Marasco's plan to close down Nico after only five years of business. Marasco opened the club as a real estate investment in 2004, but realized the club was not the best use of the land since the building wasn't open all day, every day.

Instead, Omaha partygoers have been finding ways to get the most bang for their buck.

"Because of this, I've seen many dance parties at houses and think this will only continue, perhaps being a catalyst in putting more places out of business," said UNO alumnus and local disc jockey Brent Crampton.

UNO senior and DJ Chris Massara said he's disappointed in the recent decline of clubs around town.

"Although I did not frequent Nico or Citrus often, I do support the work of DJs and clubs and feel the more variety Omaha has, the better it is for the clubbing culture," Massara told the Gateway in February.

It's not just the party scene that's on the decline. In January and February, the Nebraska liquor tax revenue went down three percent, state officials said.

But despite the recession, others are confident the club scene will boom again in Omaha. Crampton said that after a break, Nico owner Marasco plans to open a new, smaller club in West Omaha. Also, Club Irie, formerly Club Safari, opened its doors in the Old Market in January. The new, multi-level dance club features a Jamaican theme and so far, has been a popular place for local bands and Omaha Nightlife events.

At this point, however, it seems these venues will keep downsizing, Crampton said.

"People will find ways to spend less, dance more and always opt for house parties over cover charges."

Andrea Barbe contributed to this report.

FROM MUSIC: PAGE 26

ensemble also performed for attendees.

"This is the signature event for the jazz program here at the university," Pete Madsen said in a press release. Madsen is the coordinator of jazz studies and assistant professor of trombone at UNO. "Bringing together high school students with our students and faculty creates a great learning environment. There's a lot of talent in our region."

"Nebraska Bass Day" rounded out the semester's activities with a visit from double bass soloist Edgar Meyer, who conducted a day of concerts, classes and music education.

All the successes within the UNO Music Department, both by students and faculty, have made 2008-09 a year to remember.

FROM BISHOP: PAGE 26

"There never was a person like her, and I doubt there ever will be again. She would give you the shirt off her back in the middle of winter and she wouldn't complain. As long as you were fine, she was fine."

The UNO Band Web site described Bishop as one of its most "spirited and beloved members" of its organization.

During her time at UNO, Bishop was a member of the Goodrich Program and worked as a student teacher at Millard West High School as well as Black Elk and Reeder Elementary Schools.

"April was one of our very best scholars. She was the type of student you just love to have in class," said Jerry Cederblom, chair of the Goodrich Program. "I can't think of a time I didn't see her in an upbeat mood."

Bishop had just moved to Falls City and told friends and family about her new job she was anxious to start.

"She called me on the way home from her interview down in Falls City. She was so excited. She said, 'This is the job I want. It's the perfect school,'" said Matt Sheppard, Millard West High School band director to KETV Channel 7 in June. "She was April. I mean, she wasn't a model of anybody else. She was her own person. She wasn't afraid of expressing herself as to who she was."

On June 23, a candlelight vigil was held and just a few days later on June 26, family, friends and faculty gathered at the Strauss Performing Arts Center Recital Hall for a memorial service in honor of Bishop.

"April loved UNO, she knew this was a family, her family," said Melissa Berke, chairwoman of the UNO Music Department. "April's spirits will live in these halls forever."

Top 5 Concerts of 2008-2009

BY ANDREA BARBE

1) New Kids on the Block

The bubble-gum pop boy band New Kids on the Block hit the Qwest Center Omaha on Nov. 12 for a jam-packed show. The Boston natives, who gained popularity in the 1980s and early 1990s, reunited for their sixth studio album "The Block" after a 14-year hiatus.



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2) Jack's Mannequin

Piano rock band Jack's Mannequin made two stops in Omaha to promote their latest record, "The Glass Passenger." The quartet hit Sokol Underground on Nov. 6, 2008, and again on April 11, at Sokol Auditorium with opening acts Matt Nathanson and Low vs. Diamond.

3) Ludo



MICHELLE BISHOP/RETROSPECT

Quirky St. Louis rockers Ludo performed at UNO to celebrate its centennial with a free concert outside the Milo Bail Student Center. The Oct. 8 show was organized by Maverick

Productions and was the biggest name band brought to campus this school year.

4) Slipknot

The Mid-America Center hosted the heavy-metal Des Moines natives Slipknot on Jan. 26. But this show made national news when concertgoer Cory Nickels died after going into cardiac arrest.

5) Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers

Rock-and-Roll-Hall-of-Famers Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers played at the Qwest Center on July 20. The classic rock group performed during the Super Bowl XLII Halftime Show months prior.

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MUSIC

"IRON MAN"

Released: May 2, 2008

Stan Lee's Marvel superhero leaps off of the comic book pages and onto the big screen with sheer ease in this flick about a billionaire playboy engineer who creates another identity for himself. The casting of Robert Downey Jr. and visual effects made this film one of the biggest summer blockbusters of 2008.

"WALL-E"

Released: June 27, 2008

This computer-animated sci-fi film about a robot named Wall-E, who falls in love with another robot named EVE, is endearing to both children and adults. Pixar's graphics are visually stunning and best of all, the story had a great underlying message about how to keep planet Earth clean and looking beautiful.

"THE DARK KNIGHT"

Released: July 18, 2008

Another dark, sinister take on the classic "Batman" series, "The Dark Knight" took viewers into a world full of sadistic crime and vigilante justice. Heath Ledger's final compelling performance as the Joker will surely reign in cinematic history for years to come.

COLDPLAY - "VIVA LA VIDA OR DEATH AND ALL HIS FRIENDS"

Released: May 25, 2008

British rock band Coldplay hit it big with their single "Viva La Vida" off their fourth record. The quartet's melancholy tones, sweet lyrics and unmatched orchestral sound make it easy to see why "Viva La Vida" was nominated for "Record of the Year" at the 2009 Grammy Awards.

LADY GAGA - "THE FAME"

Released: August 28, 2008

Blonde bombshell Lady Gaga exploded onto the music scene in 2008 with her first single, "Just Dance." Since then, the singer-songwriter, known for her quirky style and electronic pop sound, has been all over the radio airwaves. Just one listen of her 2009 single "Poker Face" and you'll see why.

BRITNEY SPEARS - "CIRCUS"

Released: Nov. 28, 2008

This pop princess brings her old musical stylings back for her sixth studio album, "Circus," with singles like Billboard Hot 100's "Womanizer," the self-titled track "Circus" and controversial hit "If U Seek Amy."

POPULAR MOVIES/CDs/VIDEOS/GAMES OF 2008

MOVIES

"FALLOUT 3"

Released: Oct. 28, 2008

This role-playing game is packed with action as players are set in an alternate, post-World War II apocalypse. Actors Liam Neeson, Malcom McDowell and Ron Perlman lend their voices to the game, which sold more than 610,000 copies within the first month of its release.

"GRAND THEFT AUTO IV"

Released: Dec. 2, 2008

"Grand Theft Auto IV" is developer North Star's fourth installment of the 3D "Grand Theft Auto" series. The action-adventure game grossed more than \$500 million in revenue in its first week alone. Critics rate it as one of the highest-rated video games on the market today.

"ROCK BAND 2 (FOR NINTENDO WII)"

Released: Dec. 18, 2008

The sequel to 2007's best-selling musical video game with simulated instruments, including guitars, a drum set and microphone, allows players to rock out to their favorite tunes from classic rock ballads to heavy metal hits. "Rock Band 2" had sold 1.7 million copies by the end of 2008.

BOOKS

"ARE YOU THERE, VODKA? IT'S ME, CHELSEA" BY CHELSEA HANDLER

Released: April 22, 2008

Comedian Chelsea Handler penned this memoir full of non-stop laughter, ridiculous scenarios and over-the-top shenanigans that will leave readers in stitches with the turn of each page. The satirical novel hit No. 1 on The New York Times Best-Seller list.

"BREAKING DAWN" BY STEPHANIE MEYER

Released: August 2, 2008

As the fourth novel in the romantic vampire series "Twilight," "Breaking Dawn" tells the story from lead character Bella's perspective after her marriage to Edward Cullen. The tale by Stephanie Meyer was sold at many bookstores' midnight release parties with 1.3 million copies being sold within the first 24 hours of the book's release.

"THE LUCKY ONE" BY NICHOLAS SPARKS

Released: Sept. 30, 2008

Another love story from best-selling author Nicholas Sparks, who penned classics "A Walk to Remember" and "The Notebook," "The Lucky One" follows a U.S. Marine who finds a photo of a young woman half-buried in the Iraqi sands. During his deployment, this picture becomes the soldier's good luck charm. As the story line progresses, the Marine eventually finds the woman from the photo that he's been carrying.

SPORTS



Wrestling team secures sixth national championship, ends season 13-0 in duals

BY TAYLOR MULLER

The Maverick wrestling team was on a warpath during the 2008-09 season. For the sixth time in the program's history, its wrestlers were crowned the Division II national champions.

Picked at the beginning of the season to be No. 1, the Mavs held onto that ranking throughout the season, as they finished an untarnished 13-0 in duals. This is only the third time UNO has gone undefeated.

The team also dominated the Midwest Regional Championships on March 1 followed by the National Collegiate Athletic Association D-II National Tournament on March 13, to be crowned national champions. UNO took first at both tournaments, due to a team effort to scoop up as many points as possible in large part at the National Tournament.

Senior Todd Meneely, at 157-pounds, also secured his third national title, the fourth wrestler in UNO history to do so. Meneely finished the season 27-0, sealing his collegiate record at 85-5.

"Thirty years, six national championships and these kids succeed in the classroom. It speaks volumes for the job [Head Coach Mike Denney] has done with the program," said David Miller, UNO's athletic director. Denney has served as head coach at UNO since 1979.

This is the fifth national championship won under Denney's leadership, who was also honored as the nation's D-II Coach of the Year. "I don't know if we could have asked any more out of them," Denney said. "It was a special thing when you see them all sacrificing for the team."

The Mavs, in addition to winning



COURTESY OF SANDY HIGDON

all 13 duals of the season, more than tripled their opponents' points in all but three duals.

The duals that proved challenging were against No. 2 nationally ranked Newberry College (S.C.), No. 3 Minnesota State, Mankato and No. 4 University of Nebraska-Kearney.

UNO faced Newberry in the championship round of the National Wrestling Coaches Association National Duals on Jan. 11. UNO pulled ahead to take the title 23-19.

After a series of home wins in January, the Mavs finished the month against Nebraska-Kearney. UNO cruised to a 26-9 win at the Sapp Fieldhouse on Jan. 31 over the Lopers. The Mavs won seven of the 10 bouts, including a pin from junior Cody Garcia in 1:19, a major decision for sophomore Mario Morgan and a technical fall from Meneely.

Last year, Kearney took home the national title with a one-half point victory over Mankato. UNO finished third.

On Feb. 6, the wrestling team scooped up a close dual against Mankato,

edging the Mavericks of Minnesota 17-15. The tempo was back and forth, with the first bout of the night, UNO sophomore Matt Rein at 125-pounds, lost to Mankato. A 9-1 major decision from the No. 2-nationally ranked Garcia at 133-pounds gave UNO a 4-3 lead.

The next two matches gave Mankato the lead, once again, with an upset over UNO's No. 2 Mario Morgan at 141 pounds. However, UNO came back to secure four of the next five matches, including a 24-13 major decision from Meneely, to win the dual.

The Mavs continued to look unstoppable as they powered through the best D-II competition in the nation.

And unstoppable they were, steamrolling to a first-place finish at the NCAA D-II Regional Tournament on March 1. All 10 wrestlers representing UNO advanced to the National Tournament, while also crowning five individual champions at Truman State

University's Pershing Arena.

Garcia, Morgan, Meneely, seniors Ross Taplin and Brent Pankoke were each crowned in their respective weight classes.

"It was great being part of the team," Taplin said. "All 10 guys have at least a year with each other, many known each other since fourth and fifth grade."

Dominguez, junior Jacob Marrs and senior Tony Lewis finished second, while Rein and sophomore Aaron Denson secured their nationals tickets with third-place finishes.

"It's all about the overall quality of

the work we put in during the season, going hard no matter what," Pankoke said. "To have that dedication, it really shows."

Going into the National Tournament in Houston on March 13 with a target on their backs, the Mavs were aware they were the team to beat.

"We were really proud of our guys," Denney said. "We always tell them, 'It's two days and four rounds, its all about the team that's the most consistent, that brings their best each round.'"

Despite several Mavs being knocked out of championship contention, the UNO wrestlers still fought hard for major decisions, pins and falls to increase the overall team score.

Garcia, who was defeated in the quarter finals in a 4-2 decision by 2009 national champion Joe Kemmerer of Kutztown, came back to pin his next four opponents, securing the Most Falls in the Least Amount of Time trophy as well.

Advancing past the semifinals Denson, Marrs, Meneely and Pankoke were still on track to secure individual national titles.

However, Denson was defeated by Mercyhurst's Josh Shields in a 5-0 decision. Marrs fell to Newberry's Keeno Griffin by decision 3-2; and Pankoke came up short against Adams State's Kyle Sand in a 6-4 decision.

Meneely, though, continued his undefeated streak by toppling Upper Iowa University's Travis Eggers with a first-period takedown and another takedown in the second overtime for a 4-2 decision.

"Each guy was doing the most they could for the team," Denney said. "We had some tough matches, we had guys that bounced back."

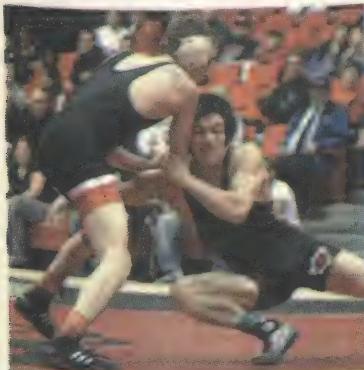
UNO placed first overall with 146.5 points. Second-place Newberry had 80.5 points, while third-place Mankato earned 71.5 points.

The 2006 record-breaking UNO team earned 117 points at nationals, UNO's highest total at that time. 2006 was the last time UNO took the national title.

"And, we called the 2006 team a perfect season," Denney said.

Taplin echoed those sentiments saying, "I didn't think we could do better than 2006." Next year, UNO will be defending its national title on its home turf. For the fifth time, the Mavericks will play host to the NCAA D-II National Tournament in March 2010.

"We want to do well, we want to perform," Denney said. "We have a great team coming back, probably be No. 1 again. We need to regroup and do it all again."



MICHELLE BISHOP/RETROSPECT

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Volleyball team hangs tough with ranked foes in first MIAA season

BY MICHELLE BISHOP

Even though the UNO volleyball team finished in the middle of the pack after its first season in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association, the Mavs made their presence known in the talented league.

UNO, which finished sixth in the 11-team league, pushed the league's top teams and pulled off its share of upsets while fighting for a fifth-straight berth to the NCAA Division II Tournament.

Needing a strong second-half finish to qualify for the postseason, juniors

five points midway through the fourth frame. But the Lopers used a 5-1 run and four UNO attack errors to escape Omaha with a 27-25 set win to take the match 3-1.

In UNO's final home game, then 10th-ranked Truman State gritted out a 3-2 win despite a career-high 25 kills from Thommes.

Thanks to a couple of key upsets and seven wins over their final 10 games, UNO joined five other MIAA schools in the D-II postseason. Six schools were the most ever to qualify for the volleyball postseason by the MIAA.

Truman State, which finished fourth in the final Top 25 poll, swept UNO 3-0 in the first round of the NCAA II South Central Regional to end UNO's season.

midseason and made a statement saying 'Look, just because we've lost a few early and we're young doesn't mean that we're out for the count, we can do something here,'" Shires said. "She not only verbally said it but she said it with her performance. What the junior class did was backup Annie's statement with their performance, their play day in and day out, how they competed and what they did."

The performance of four Mavs earned them All-MIAA honors. Thommes was named to the All-MIAA second-team squad, while Kampschnieder and junior Kayla Jansen earned third team honors. Freshman setter Emily Myers, the first ever recruit from the California, earned honorable mention recognition.

Jansen became the seventh player in school history to record more than 500 digs in a season, finishing the year with 505.



MICHELLE BISHOP/RETROSPECT

Sara Kampschnieder, Kelli Goeser and Ellen Thommes combined for 50 kills to lead the Mavs to a 3-2 upset over then 15th-ranked Pittsburg State on Oct. 24.

Five days later, UNO snapped then seventh-ranked Washburn's 12-match winning streak with a 3-1 upset.

But the Mavs also found themselves heartbroken after a couple of grueling matches.

In UNO's home opener against non-conference foe Nebraska-Kearney, the Mavs nearly rallied to force a final set against the then 11th-ranked Lopers.

A packed Sapp Fieldhouse was on its feet after UNO led by as many as

"We started young and inexperienced and ended up in the NCAA tournament," Head Coach Rose Shires said. "We took some hard losses early that talent wise and athletically we could have beaten the teams we lost to. It was just a matter of believing that we could win those matches. By the end of the year we were winning those matches and I was very pleased with their progress and making it to the NCAA tournament, that was ultimately our goal."

UNO finished the year with a 16-16 overall record and a 12-8 mark in the MIAA.

With senior Annie Rice, the lone senior on the squad, UNO relied on the junior class to help carry the load in Shires' 19th season as a UNO coach.

"Annie really stepped up about

Thommes, a middle blocker, also earned honorable mention honors on the AVCA D-II South Central Region team. Thommes, two-time MIAA Hitter of the Week in 2008, led UNO with a .352 hitting percentage, 1.19 blocks per set and 439.0 points. In the final conference-only statistics, Thommes ranked first in blocks (1.30 bps), third in hitting percentage (.353) and fifth in points (3.86 pps).

"Now as those juniors are going to be seniors, they're the ones that are leading this team," Shires said. "They are doing an exceptional job of laying down the foundation of the 2009 team. The team's goal is that we qualify for the Elite Eight next year. Not only to make it to the NCAA tournament, but to win the regional championship and get to the Elite Eight championship. Based on what I've seen this spring, that's not just a possibility, it can be a reality for us."



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Football rides bumpy road during first MIAA season

BY MICHELLE BISHOP

The bar was set high for UNO's first season in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.

Coming off a 10-1 season, which included a perfect 8-0 record in the North Central Conference, the Maverick football team began the season ranked No. 7 in Division II with high expectations.

In the MIAA Preseason Coaches Poll, UNO was picked to finish second, behind Northwest Missouri State and ahead of Pittsburg State.

But UNO's first journey through the MIAA proved to be a bumpy ride.

UNO, which opened with a non-conference win over Nebraska-Kearney, cruised to wins over MIAA opponents Emporia State and Missouri Southern to start the season 3-0. The Mavs scored 40 or more points in each of the three games.

The real test came when rival Northwest Missouri State, ranked No. 8, headed to Caniglia Field to face the No. 5-ranked Mavs.

The game was poised to be an offensive explosion. Entering the game, the teams showed they were capable of putting up big numbers. Northwest ranked sixth nationally with 45.3 points per game, while UNO ranked eighth with 43.3.

Northwest led the MIAA and ranked 13th nationally in passing yards per game (307.2), while UNO led the MIAA and ranked fourth nationally in rushing yards per game (283.0).

In what was hyped to be a thrilling game between the teams ended up being a one-sided rout by the Bearcats. Uncharacteristic mistakes plagued the Mavs as Northwest, the eventual NCAA D-II runner-up, left Omaha with a 42-0 win.

"We know we got hit in the chin by a good football team," senior quarterback Zach Miller said in September. "We made our own mistakes, and you can't do that against a quality football team like them."

None of the Mavericks had been born the last time UNO was shutout at home in 1981.

The Mavs found themselves on the wrong end of a lot of firsts: first regular season loss since 2006; first time shutout at home since a 3-0 loss to

their fortune with a 42-14 win over Missouri Western on homecoming. Miller and senior running back Brian McNeill demonstrated how dangerous UNO's option play could be. The duo accounted for 342 yards rushing and five touchdowns as UNO racked up 589 yards of total offense, with 420 yards on the ground.

UNO's next game appeared to be a must-win situation to keep their playoff hopes alive. The then 22nd-ranked Mavs rallied from a 21-point, first-half deficit, but couldn't stop then No. 13-ranked Pittsburg State, losing 35-28 on the road.

With three losses on the season and three games remaining, the Mavs had no margin for error to stay in contention for the region's last playoff spot.

In what may have been the biggest win of the season for the Mavs, UNO pulled out a last minute 38-33 win over then-No. 18 Central Missouri to keep its playoff hopes alive.

Miller's 43-yard run on a draw play with 52 seconds remaining in the game allowed UNO to pull off the upset.

"Probably as big a play we've had here with him or anybody was that one in the final minute of the game," Head Coach Pat Behrns said in October. "Anytime you score under those circumstances and it puts you ahead to win the game, that's a pretty big play."

The Mavs started at the UNO 22 yard line with 2:19 remaining and their two-minute offense clicked. Miller busted through the Mules' defense and dived into the end zone with a defender on his heels, just hooking the ball around the pylon for the touchdown.

"It opened up and I just had to



MICHELLE BISHOP/RETROSPECT

Morningside in 1981; and first MIAA conference loss. The loss ended a string of 14 consecutive regular season wins for UNO.

Things didn't get any easier. The next week UNO dropped a 26-20 double overtime game to Truman State on the road and fell out of the AFCA D-II Coaches Poll. UNO's first two-game skid since the 2002 season put their postseason hopes in jeopardy.

The Mavs briefly reversed



MICHELLE BISHOP/RETROSPECT

make a couple people miss," Miller said in October. "I started getting tired about the 10, but I just had to get in the end zone and do it any way possible."

The win put new life into UNO's season. The Mavs finished off their final two games of the regular season with wins over Fort Hays State and Washburn.

What seemed nonexistent at one point became reality. UNO grabbed the sixth and final spot in Super Regional 4 to set up a rematch with third-seeded Pittsburg State in the first round of the Division II playoffs.

"Everything turned out the way it was supposed to be," junior Steve Janda said in November. "We took care of business on our end."

Once again, Pitt State ended up being too much for the Mavs to handle. The Gorillas used a late fourth quarter score to win 33-21 and end UNO's season. The Mavs have now dropped six straight playoff games, dating back to 2001.

UNO finished the regular season 7-3, 6-3 in the MIAA.

"In general I think we all were a little disappointed," Behrns said. "But I know what we got to do now to get

back to where we need to be. It just didn't seem right there for a while and it's just something that we've got to get corrected."

Under Behrns, the Mavs have compiled 13 consecutive winning seasons and eight playoff appearances - including four consecutive trips to the NCAA D-II playoffs.

With a season under their belt, the Mavs have firsthand experience as to why many think the MIAA is the toughest conference in D-II football.

"I don't think there's any question about that, I think it is," Behrns said. "Now I'm sure that there's some leagues out there that would debate that. But from top to bottom it's probably the best in the country."

UNO has big shoes to fill on both sides of the ball after the departure of offensive lineman Jake Sjuts and linebacker Jeff Souder. Both seniors picked up All-MIAA first-team honors last season.

The Mavs also need to replace the offensive output of McNeill, the MIAA's leading rusher, who averaged 134.1 yards per game. The native of Philadelphia, Pa., led UNO in rushing, totaling 1,445 yards on 243 carries in

2008.

Arguably the biggest shoes to fill will be Miller's. The quarterback finished his four-year career as the all-time leading scorer in UNO history with 306 points and 50 touchdowns. Miller ranks second all-time with 7,218 total yards.

"We got 21 seniors that left us and I'm not sure if you can ever measure a person's contribution by statistics," Behrns said. "Obviously Zach Miller, how do you measure what he's done as a person, as a leader and as a teammate? Hopefully that's what continues on with these guys."

Junior Greg Wunderlich is the only current Mav with college experience at the signal caller position. To add depth at quarterback, this spring UNO added junior college transfer Jon Daniels from College of DuPage.

"We got some work to do, we got some people to replace," Behrns said. "Right now I'm pleased with the way our quarterback position is evolving but we've got to get some people around him to be successful. The quarterback is only as good as the people around him so we need to get better in some areas by next year."

Promising start leads to disappointing finish

BY MICHELLE BISHOP

The 2008-09 UNO hockey season turned into a tale of two halves.

The Mavs started the 2008 portion of their schedule on a blazing pace by jumping out to the best start in program history at 12-4-3. But the new year wasn't kind to the Mavs. The team collected only one win during the second half and set a school-record 14-game winless streak of 0-9-5.

UNO finished 15-17-8 overall and 8-13-7-3 in the Central Collegiate Hockey Association.

The year got off to a promising start. UNO claimed its second Mutual of Omaha Stampede title in as many years with a 2-1 overtime victory over Union College in the championship game.

The Mavs continued through the first half of the season with a sweep over Michigan State at the Qwest Center in November. The slumping Spartans, the 2007 national champions, yielded 10 goals in two games to UNO. It was also the first time the Mavs had swept a CCHA opponent at home since January 2007 against Northern Michigan.

"I was extremely pleased with the way the team came out of the blocks at the start of the season," Head Coach Mike Kemp said. "I thought they played very well."

With a win over MSU, senior goaltender Jerad Kaufmann jumped to 6-0-0, the best start ever by a Maverick netminder.

The series sweep helped vault UNO into the national rankings at No. 14 in the USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine poll and No. 16 in the USCHO.com/CBS College Sports poll.

The following weekend, the Mavs dropped a crucial series at Ohio State with a pair of one-goal losses. It was the first series of the season where UNO failed to earn a point in the league

standings.

Then-No. 20 Alaska, which finished fourth in the CCHA, battled the 18th-ranked Mavs in two tough games to open December. In the first game, the teams skated to a scoreless tie with UNO taking the shootout. The



MICHELLE BISHOP/RETROSPECT

next night proved to be tight, as well. Alaska left the Qwest Center with a shootout win after the teams skated to a 1-1 tie.

"How more evenly balanced can you have two teams?" Kemp said in December. "You've got both teams fighting and playing 0-0 in five straight periods and in overtime there, that's pretty incredible."

The second half of the season began with a grueling East Coast road trip and followed with the heavyweights of the CCHA: Miami, Michigan and Notre Dame.

Then 15th-ranked UNO opened the trip east with an 8-3 win on Dec. 29 over a talented Yale squad that qualified for the NCAA tournament.

The next night, the Mavs were up-ended 5-1 by eighth-ranked Princeton University, which also qualified for the NCAA tournament.

On Jan. 3, UNO returned to the Midwest for a non-conference game at No. 17 Minnesota State, Mankato. Sophomore forward Matt Ambroz

netted two goals, including one in the final minute. Kaufmann made 22 saves, but Mankato used a late empty-net goal to secure a 4-3 win.

Despite going just 1-2-1 against the CCHA to start the second half, UNO still sat tied with Ohio State for fourth place in the conference entering a key home series against ninth-ranked Miami Jan. 23-24.

In the first game, the Mavs picked up a shootout win after rallying to tie the game 2-2, scoring both goals in the third period. The RedHawks answered with a 6-1 thrashing of UNO the following night.

The remainder of the regular season proved to be a challenge for the Mavs as they failed to record a win. The Mavs skated to three ties and an overtime loss during that stretch.

Goals proved hard to come by in the second half of the season, which Kemp said was one of his main concerns entering the year.

The Mavs questioned who would replace the offensive output of departed seniors Mick Lawrence, Brandon Scero and Bryan Marshall. The trio accounted for 50 of the 125 goals UNO scored last season.

"Those were areas we really wanted to focus on knowing that we had lost Lawrence, Scero and Marshall from the year before and that goals were going to be a hard thing to come by," Kemp said. "The first half of the year we were at 3.2 goals for and in the last 19 games we were at 1.6. We had a really unexplained lack of offense during the second half of the year and we really were very disappointed in that aspect of it."

The hockey gods were cruel to UNO. Numerous times the Mavs came up empty as the puck would bounce wide, hit a post or deflect off players around the crease.

"I am never one to feel that we are in a situation where it's dire or where things have no chance of getting better," Kemp said in February. "Obviously, I think things can turn around. We have players on this team who have been proven scorers for their whole lives and, at some point in time, we have got to get to the point where they start dropping again."

Things finally started to turn around for UNO as the team snapped out of an eight-week funk at a crucial point in the season.

The Mavs edged out ninth-place Ferris State by one conference standing point to finish in eighth place and grab home-ice advantage against the Bulldogs in the first round of the CCHA playoffs.

UNO picked up their first win since Jan. 9 with a 3-0 blanking of Ferris State in game one of the best-of-three series on March 6. Kaufmann became the first netminder in UNO history to blank an opponent in the postseason.

The Mavs kept up the intensity the next night by ending Ferris State's season with a 5-2 win. The five goals were the most UNO had scored since an 8-3 win over Yale.

"We rebounded well in the playoffs and again came back to the kind of team we had seen in the first half of the

season," Kemp said.

The series win advanced the Mavs into the second round to face No. 2-ranked Notre Dame, the CCHA's regular-season and eventual playoff champion.

Notre Dame showed why many considered them the best team in the country at the time. The Fighting Irish struck first each night, minutes into each game, to sweep the best-of-three series with 5-0 and 1-0 wins.

In UNO's 1-0 loss on March 14, the Mav's tough luck woes came back to haunt them.

UNO had multiple opportunities to score but senior forward Dan Charleston's shot bounced off the inside of the post, senior J.P. Platisha just missed on a quick wraparound and junior forward Nick Fanto drilled a shot off the facemask of the goaltender.

"We just couldn't buy a bounce," Kemp said in March. "Great play by Charleston and [Tomas] Klempa to come in the zone and put it off the inside of the pipe. This is a game of millimeters, that's on the inside of the pipe and it bounces off the inside of the pipe and out."

Earlier in the game, the Mavs had what could have been their best scoring chance whistled dead. The puck bounced out to junior defenseman Eddie

D e l

Grosso, who was alone in the slot with a clear view of a partially open net. But, the referee blew the play dead when he lost sight of the puck and assumed it was frozen under a tangle of players in front of the crease.

"Everyone was flopping around and the puck ends up on one of our sticks 15 feet out in front of the net, but the whistle blows," Kemp said. "We got everybody down and out and a guy with the puck in the slot who can't bury it. That's kind of the microcosm of how the season went, bounces like that didn't go our way."

One positive note to end the season was the performance of UNO's defense. The Mavs allowed 2.6 goals per game in 2008-09, a reduction from 3.5 in 2007-08.

"Over the course of the same number of games from one year to this year, we allowed 39 less goals than a year ago," Kemp said. "We went from 53rd in the country in goals against in 2007-08 to 16th, so we made some big strides in an area that we felt was really an area that needed focus."

The Mavs expect to return an experienced group of defensemen next season, including juniors Eddie DelGrosso and captain Mark Bernier. DelGrosso, UNO's leading scorer this season with 34 points, earned second-team All-CCHA honors.



MICHELLE BISHOP/RETROSPECT

Women's tennis team finds wins at home

BY DANIELLE SHERMAN

It has been a rollercoaster ride for the women's tennis team with a 7-6 record so far this season. The team has struggled to string together multiple wins in their first season of Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association competition.

UNO started with a win at home against Nebraska Wesleyan on Feb. 6, followed by a middling performance at the Gustavus Adolphus Invite. There, the Mavs defeated Augustana with an 8-1 win but dropped the next two matches against North Dakota and Gustavus Adolphus.

Led by senior captain Rachel Faulk, the Mavs have stayed consistent at home. The team's first MIAA victory was a win over Southwest Baptist followed by two more wins, one against Graceland and one against Missouri Southern. UNO's only home loss came against Division I Northern Iowa.

Faulk, the only senior, said despite the relatively young team, they have still come together. "Coming into this year with such a young team was a little frightening," Faulk said. "But the girls all work so hard which means a lot to me because it's my last season and I want to go as far as we possibly can go. I know that they will fight to make that possible."

The Mavs continued their journey on the road, falling to Drake, a D-I opponent, and Northwest Missouri State. But the Mavs dominated MIAA foes Fort Hayes State and Missouri Western on the road, with 9-0 shutouts in both matches.

With all the team has been through, Faulk said she is proud of her teammates and only sees good things to come in the future.

"I feel pretty good so far about this

season," Faulk said. "Everyone has been working extremely hard. We had a tough loss to NWMS...but I feel like the loss will just push everyone to work even harder."

The ladies may have a chance to better their record. They have proved to be successful at home, so far. The Mavs have home court advantage for five of their final six matches, all leading up to the MIAA Championships April 25-26 in Kansas City, Mo.

"It's hard to say how the season will end up for us," Faulk said. "A big part of tennis is not only the physical aspect but the mental aspect. We still have Washburn, Emporia and Truman to play from our conference and those are not going to be easy matches by any means. I feel the mental toughness of our team is what's really going to matter in those matches."

Men's tennis newcomers to UNO, conference

BY TAYLOR MULLER

As UNO joined the ranks of the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association, the new conference required that the Mavs take on another sport. The decision to create the men's tennis team brought together 15 men to play, for many, in their first collegiate matches.

The results have been varied. The men held a record of 5-6, 0-3 in the MIAA at press time on April 4. But the team learned more about itself and its opponents as the season continued, especially against its fierce conference competition.

The 15 men all hail from high schools in Nebraska and follow in the footsteps of their female counterparts as they take on new challenges in the new conference.

"We're learning our way, figuring out who belongs at what spot, doubles teams," said team co-captain Chase Petersen. "We've definitely bonded a lot more this year, taken the trips to Kearney and Hastings, Northwest Missouri, you learn a lot about each other, supporting each

other throughout the tough matches."

And there were plenty of tough matches for the pioneering men as they came together to play as a team.

The team had trouble defeating conference opponents, but shined against interstate rivals like Midland Lutheran, Doane College, Hastings College and Concordia University.

"It's definitely a different level of play, little bit of different game," Petersen said. "Much tougher opponents, smarter, fitter, all around better than you ever came up against in high school."

The Mavs began the spring season trading off losses for wins, with a 6-3 loss to Nebraska Wesleyan on Feb. 6, but bounced back to claim the program's first shutout with a 9-0 win over Midland Lutheran.

"This year, the competitive spirit, team bonding, it brings back a lot of new



JODI PENN/RETROSPECT

memories," Petersen said.

Throughout the remaining season, the men continued trading wins for losses, however the Mavs were shutout each time they went up against a conference foe, as of April 4.

They fell 9-0 to Southwest Baptist University on March 13, Northwest Missouri State on March 25 and Washburn on April 3.

At time of press, the Mavs were scheduled to have two more conference games, one against Truman State and one against Emporia State.

The team will use the summer and fall for practice, which will allow the team to loosen up as it gears up for its second season next spring.

"When we started our season, half our players were rusty, definitely not at the competitive level we're playing at," Petersen said. "I'm looking forward to next year, playing together."

Mavericks contribute more than just points

BY MICHELLE BISHOP

Maverick athletes are certainly a busy bunch. Besides school, work and practice, the university's teams always make it a point to give back to the community.

The hockey team's philanthropic efforts have gained them national recognition for their service.

Senior goaltender Jerad Kaufmann was awarded the Central Collegiate Hockey Association's Ilitch Humanitarian Award for his work raising money for Nebraska Troop Support and the Bryan McDonough Military Heroes Foundation.

The Ilitch Humanitarian Award is given to the CCHA's top citizen based on contributions off the ice, as well as on, to team, program, school and community.

Kaufmann created and orchestrated Military Appreciation Night in December to raise money for the Bryan McDonough Military Heroes Foundation. The foundation was established in memory of Kaufmann's friend who was killed serving in Iraq.

This season's Military Appreciation Night auction of camouflage jerseys, designed by Kaufmann, raised more than \$12,700 split evenly between the two charities.

Kaufmann and the Mavs also hosted the same event last season. In the event's first two years, more than \$24,000 has been raised to help service members and their families.

In February, the team also participated in the Leap For a Cure campaign and raised a total of \$34,653.93 for the Estabrook Cancer Center in Omaha to help fund brain cancer research and education.

On Feb. 7 during a pregame ceremony, 5,000 penlights donated by the Nebraska Methodist Hospital Foundation were used to light up a dark Qwest Center to show how cancer impacts the lives of those who attended the game.

"I was very proud and amazed at the response they had," Head Coach Mike Kemp said. "We had the pregame ceremony ... and I know from talking to Mark Bernier, he said he was standing there with tears in his eyes realizing all the different people that have been affected by brain cancer, or cancer in general that were in the audience. He knew he was really doing something special. All the players knew it was an unusual night and an unusual opportunity for them to do something way out of the norm to touch a lot of people's lives."

UNO fans also helped support the cause by raising an additional \$8,600 after auctioning specially designed game sweaters.

From January until early February, the hockey team challenged their fans to raise at least \$30,000. The team agreed to shave their heads if fans donated at least that amount. The goal was met and the entire team shaved their heads after a 5-0



MICHELLE BISHOP/RETROSPECT

loss to Western Michigan on Feb. 7.

"While disappointment reigned because of the game," Kemp said. "There was a certain realization that 'Man we're doing something much bigger than a hockey game,' and much bigger than anything they could have done by scoring a goal that night."

The philanthropy, however, doesn't stop at the ice rink. Maverick athletes from all sports also contribute throughout

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UNO baseball team paced by pitching staff as new conference plays out

BY MARCUS HANSEN

In their first season as part of the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association, the Mavericks produced an 11-8 record after three weeks of road play.

The Mavs traveled to Colorado, Missouri and Kansas and also spent a week in Winterhaven, Fla., before spring break.

While the team is new to the conference, the glue of the squad has been senior shortstop and captain Evan Porter, Head Coach Bob Herold said.

Porter, a 6-foot-4, 205-pound alumnus of Millard North High School, ranked sixth all-time in home runs and RBIs before his senior year started this spring.

Since spring break, the Mavs are

13-1 with the only setback - a nail biting loss on the road against Missouri Western. Junior Wes Simmons took the loss for the Mavs, even though he gave up only two hits in the 2-1 loss.

Herold's squad was 24-9 overall and 14-4 in the MIAA, second in the conference at press time. The Mavs were ranked 19th nationally in D-II.

"We are still not hitting as well as we should be," Herold said. "But, we're doing good for being in a new conference."

Porter and junior Andrew Hansen both lead the team with 29 hits. Hansen also leads the team with a .408 batting average, 19 doubles, 37 runs and 28 RBIs. Senior Drew Schwab leads the team with six home runs.

Senior pitcher Ben Percival leads

in wins with a record of 7-0 while freshman Joe Holtmeyer is the team leader in ERA at 1.01. He also has 55 strikeouts.

Junior left-handed pitcher Adam Versendaal tore his UCL over spring break and underwent season-ending surgery on April 2nd.

"I'm very optimistic about my recovery and next year I plan on being healthier than ever," Versendaal said.

With more than 15 games remaining on the regular season schedule, the Mavs will need to adapt to MIAA conference play in order to make some noise during the postseason.

The Mavs will compete in their first MIAA tournament May 7-10 in Kansas City, Mo.

The last buzzer for Mavs' first conference tourney

BY MARCUS HANSEN

The UNO basketball team ended its season 17-11 overall and 11-9 in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.

The Mavs entered into the 2008-09 MIAA men's basketball postseason tournament for the first time in their new conference, which was held in Kansas City on March 5.

The Mavs took on Fort Hayes State for the third time this season. The Mavs beat the Tigers on Dec. 5, but then fell to them in Omaha by 19 points on Jan. 28.

"We were very anxious to play them again after such a poor performance in January," sophomore guard Mitch Albers said.

Both teams played very close early on, but UNO eventually built a six-point lead when Curry hit a layup with 5:48 to go. From there, the Mavericks went cold, scoring just one point while the Tigers ripped off 12 points to take

a 29-24 lead at the half.

The Mavs never regained the lead. They finished with a season-low in points, shooting just 34.5 percent from the floor and just 61.9 percent from the free throw line.

The Mavs made a comeback during the last two minutes, cutting the lead back to 10 when the buzzer sounded to end the game. The final score was 66-56 as the senior Mavs heard the buzzer for the final time wearing UNO jerseys.

Senior captain Michael Jenkins led the Mavericks in his final game with 15 points. Junior Dion Curry had 14 points and Albers followed with 11.

Jenkins and Albers both earned the MIAA athlete of the week award throughout the season.

"No one can replace a man like Jenkins, but next year the team will be back and more prepared for our conference opponents," Albers said.

Last year, Head Coach Derrin



MICHELLE BISHOP/RETROSPECT

Hansen led the Mavs to a 25-win season, won the final North Central Conference Tournament and earned an appearance in the NCAA D-II tournament, which was the first time since the 2004-05 season.

Women's basketball proves tough down the stretch

BY MICHELLE BISHOP

Heading into UNO's first season in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association, league coaches picked UNO and Pittsburg State to finish in a tie for seventh place in the preseason poll.

The teams didn't end up tied, but the Gorillas would be a thorn in UNO's side come the final week of the season.

Riding a six-game winning streak into the final game of the season, the Mavs were looking to boost their standings in the conference before the MIAA tournament. But the Gorillas came to Omaha with different plans.

Pitt State, which finished with the school's first 20-win campaign since 1995, rallied from an 11-point, second-half deficit and outscored UNO 50-31 in the final frame to escape with a 77-70 win.

The loss set up a rematch six days later between the sixth-seeded Mavs and the third-seeded Gorillas in the first round of the league tournament. As if the loss alone didn't already sting

enough, if UNO had held on to win the game they would have finished fourth in the league due to a higher team being upset.

With a prior loss to Pitt State on Jan. 21, UNO knew plenty about their opponent heading into the tournament game.

The third time didn't prove to be the charm as Pitt State ended UNO's season with a 81-79 loss in the first round of the tournament in Kansas City, Mo. The Gorillas ended their season with a loss to Washburn University in the semifinal of the tournament.

UNO closed out the regular season by winning eight of their last 10 games, including a 78-72 win over then fourth-ranked Emporia State.

"We were starting to put some things together towards the end of the season," Head Coach Patty Patton Shearer said. "We had a great win against Emporia State that kind of catapulted the season, that helped us decide that we could compete. If we could have hit that pinnacle a little bit earlier, maybe it would have carried us further."

The Mavs finished 15-12 overall and 11-9 in the MIAA.

"I was proud of our effort toward the end of the year, I thought we made great strides," Patton Shearer said.

"We did the best we've ever done in conference."

We felt good about the opportunities we had."

Senior Amanda Brodsack earned All-MIAA second team honors after



MICHELLE BISHOP/RETROSPECT

leading UNO in scoring with an average of 13.3 points per game. She also finished third in the MIAA with an average of eight rebounds a game.

Brodsack helped the Mavs finish third in offensive rebounds and second in defensive rebounds, with 13.78 and 26.67 rebounds per MIAA game, respectively.

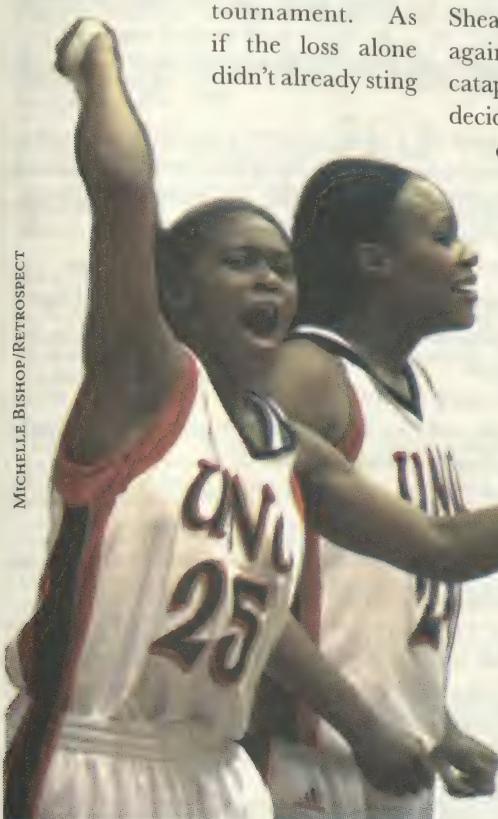
The Mavs will look to junior Alyssa Green to help carry the team next season.

Green, who picked up All-MIAA honorable mention honors, finished third in the MIAA by averaging 2.67 steals a game as UNO led the league with 11 steals per game.

Green led the way with 23 points as UNO's offense racked up its highest point total of the season en route to a 109-76 win over Bemidji State in December. It matched the second highest point total in school history.

After playing last season with only sophomores and juniors, UNO will have big shoes to fill next season as six seniors graduate.

"We're very thankful for their contributions but we feel like we have a great group returning," Patton Shearer said. "You have to build on what other groups have done. This is a great group coming back and that's exciting. We signed a great group; we signed four kids out of Nebraska. We're excited with who we got."



MICHELLE BISHOP/RETROSPECT

Golf team aims to keep winning ways, start spring season swinging

BY JESSE D. KUHNLE

After closing the 2008 fall season with three consecutive first-place finishes, the UNO women's golf team picked up where they left off to win the first tournament of the spring season.

Head Coach Tim Nelson said the team just needs to "keep doing what we've been doing" for success in the spring.

The Mavericks won the Wayne State Fall College Invitational, the Northwest Missouri State Fall Classic and the Nebraska Wesleyan Fall Invite before breaking for winter.



ABBEY WEDDLE



ERIN OMMEN

On March 23, the Mavericks carried their winning ways over the break and into the first tournament of the year, the Wayne State Invite.

"[The players are] real excited about getting going," Nelson said.

The team is made up of juniors Erin Ommen and Abbey Weddle, sophomores Amy Powell and Dani Suponchick and freshman Rebecca Pollock.

Ommen led the team with a 76.5-stroke average and placed first at four of the six fall meets. Ommen also set a UNO record with a 68-stroke, four-under-par round at the Northwest Missouri State Fall Classic.

"It almost didn't seem real that I shot that score," Ommen said. "Even now I can't comprehend shooting four under, but it feels very good."

The Mavericks face some obstacles in their first season in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association. Women's golf contains four regions, and much of UNO's competition is from warmer areas, which allows the teams to play golf year round.

Weather permitting, the Mavs have to wait until the end of March before golfing outside. Despite the weather, the team is working hard and is excited to see how the spring season plays out.

"I am definitely going to keep practicing and working as hard as I did last season," Ommen said. "Hopefully my team and I have another great season."

Nelson said goal-oriented methods have been the focus of the Mavericks' practices. This includes making 10 putts in a row from certain distances and hitting the green 10 times in a row from certain distances. Nelson couldn't identify any major shortfalls to his team, just smaller fundamentals that are "in need of fine tuning."

The team's tremendous work ethic also applies outside the links. Nelson said the team has an overall GPA of about 3.5.

"I wish I could bottle what these kids have and sell it, because I could make a fortune with what these kids have," Nelson said.

Swimming, diving qualify record number for national championships

BY MICHELLE BISHOP



MICHELLE BISHOP/RETROSPECT

The UNO swimming and diving team finished the season 5-5 and qualified a school-record 14 swimmers for the national championships due to a strong showing at the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference Championships.

The Mavs finished third at the NSIC Championships held at the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Swimming pool.

UNO is without a conference affiliation since the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association doesn't offer swimming and diving competition.

The Mavs turned in one of the best team performances of the season, including senior Lindsey Kline's record-breaking 500-yard freestyle. Kline finished in second place with a time of 5:00.77, the best time in school history, breaking the 5:00.91 mark she previously set.

"I went my best time and set a school record, so that was fun," Kline said in February. "We're swimming really well."

The Mavs ended the season with a 19th-place finish at the NCAA Division II swimming and diving championships held in Houston, March 11-14.

Kline capped her career by pacing the Mavs in the pool. Her time of 17:23.79 in the 1,650-yard freestyle earned Kline a 14th-place finish, almost five seconds better than her personal season best.

"At that meet it's a lot of pressure so some times it can get the best of you," Head Coach Todd Samland said. "But for Lindsey she had two swims in which those were her best times at that level of meet, which was really exciting."

The 800-yard freestyle relay team of freshman Amy Bechdolt, junior Tessa Edwards, sophomore Cait Hopkins and Kline swam in 7:38.91, the fastest of their season, to land 10th-place finish.

The 400-yard freestyle relay team of Hopkins, juniors Kristy Gmeiner and Lisa Elworth, and senior Katey Howarter finished in sixth place with a time of 3:30.99.

The future looks bright for the Mavs as a talented group of underclassmen gained valuable experience this season.

Four juniors, four sophomores and three freshmen were among the group of 14 Mavericks to qualify for nationals.

"We've already had year-end meetings and right now they know that was an opportunity this year. They want to make it something that's expected of them next year, not just an opportunity," Samland said. "A lot of the girls are already back in the weight room. I'm really proud of the commitment that our team is starting to show on its own."

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Eppley Administration Building, Rm 100

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- There are telephones on campus that can be used to report an emergency.

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- Disruptive behavior on campus will not be tolerated. Threats or acts of violence should be reported to Campus Security. If the act appears to represent an immediate threat or harm to an individual, it should be reported at once to Campus Security or 911.

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- A system to help facilitate emergency communications has been installed at the Center, Dodge and Pacific locations. Announcements are distributed from Campus Security to building public address systems or speakers located in building corridors. When announcements are made, strobe lights will flash to notify the hearing impaired to seek assistance.
- The system will be particularly helpful during tornado warnings. The announcement will alert building occupants to seek shelter and again later when the warning has ended. The alert system also can be used to announce University closings, confirm evacuations for fire or chemical release or other emergency conditions.
- More information on campus emergency procedures can be found on the Campus Security website.

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- Shuttle service is provided from the Pacific location lots 5, 7 and 9 – permit required.
- Remote parking is provided from the Crossroads Mall Parking Structure at 72 and Cass Streets – no permit required.
- Contact Campus Security for a shuttle schedule and remote parking locations.

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- Campus Security maintains the lost and found system. Contact Campus Security for lost items.

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- The Campus Security Department provides a fingerprinting service for individuals who require fingerprints for local, state and federal positions and for children of students, staff, faculty and alumni.

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- Blue Light Emergency Phones are located throughout campus. Use the phones to report emergencies or contact Campus Security for assistance.

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554-2648

www.unomaha.edu/security

Defense carries Mavs to third in MIAA



VALERIE LOSEKE/RETROSPECT

Association.

Unfortunately for the Mavs, Texas A&M Commerce broke the team's five-game winning streak to knock UNO out of the South Central Region tournament 1-0 in the first round.

The Mavs went 5-3 for the first half of the season, dropping games to Central Missouri, Northwest Missouri State and Washburn. In the second half of the season, UNO went 6-2, losing only to Truman State and Washburn.

Defense was the strong point for the Mavs, with the team only allowing 16 goals in 18 conference games. UNO also had the best shutout percentage in the MIAA, nearly tied with Central Missouri, which had 12 shutouts but played an additional three games.

The Mavericks were also the least penalized team in the conference, being whistled for only 137 fouls in the season and receiving the fewest cautions in the MIAA at three.

Sophomore goalkeeper Lauren Fox went 10-6 on the season, with junior goalkeeper Elizabeth Odorisio

recording 3-0.

Team scoring leaders were senior Casey Bigsby, who netted six goals; senior MaryClaire Murnan with five; and freshman Becca Swanson, junior Mykala Hanson and senior Amanda Iwansky, who all had three.

The Mavs have announced two high school seniors who have signed National Letters of Intent to attend UNO in the fall: Caitlin Stier, from Westside High School in Omaha, and Amanda Kautz, from O'Gorman High School in Sioux Falls, S.D.

Stier played goalkeeper for Westside, earning first team all-Nebraska honors as a sophomore and junior. She also played club soccer for the Omaha Tango under UNO assistant coach Ed Dudley.

Kautz earned all-South Dakota honorable mention playing for O'Gorman as a forward and midfielder. She also helped lead her club team, Dakota Gold Adrenaline, to state championships from 2003 to 2007. She will play forward for the Mavs.

BY SCOTT STEWART

The Mavericks finished the season with 11 shutouts – 10 of them against conference opponents – with an at-large bid at the NCAA Division II Women's Soccer Championship after finishing third in their inaugural season in the Mid-American Intercollegiate Athletic

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the year.

The Mavs were very active in the community, participating in everything from clothing and canned food drives to hospital visits and Rake-A-Thons.

"The girls have also done a reading event at a school," Swimming and Diving Head Coach Todd Samland said. "They are doing things that they really want to reach out to the community, which is awesome."

Samland's group also organized a clothing drive during the season.

"As a coach I didn't even drive it one single bit," Samland said. "It was all the girls doing the timeline and how to get it there. They did a great job."

UNO's wrestlers also devote their time off the mats to give back, participating in hospital visits and fundraisers, as well.

"We want to be a positive force in the Athletic Department and the campus community," said wrestling Head Coach Mike Denney.

Both the volleyball team and women's basketball team participated in events to raise awareness for breast cancer by wearing pink jerseys and donating ticket proceeds.

"You hope that an event can cascade to other things so if

something that you can do can help somewhere else," Women's Basketball Head Coach Patty Patton Shearer said. "Mostly we're just trying to say we care."

Volleyball Head Coach Rose Shires said her squad has done about 200 hours of work in the community this year.

"We've also done numerous elementary school Read-a-Thons," Shires said. "We've helped them with their PE classes, we've been mentors to a lot of young people, we've done a lot in the community this year."

The coaches agree, the athletes enjoy giving back to a community that gives them so much.

"When you add it up for kids who are going through the daily grind of being a college student, these kids really exceed the norm and it's something we're very proud of," Kemp said.



MICHELLE BISHOP/RETROSPECT

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Young cross country team gains experience

BY MICHELLE BISHOP

UNO's young cross country squad, made up of five freshmen and three sophomores, trudged through its first season in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.

The Mavs opened the season beating out Creighton and Iowa Western with a third-place finish in the UNO/Creighton Classic.

The Mavs finished their only home meet behind first-place Augustana and second-place Nebraska.

The team's top five runners finished in places 16 – 20, each within 25 seconds of one another. Sophomore Lisa Tesarek paced the Mavs with a time of 16:21, ahead of freshman Amanda Stauffer. Freshman Carolina Kunnemann ran an 18th-place finish in 16:28, while sophomores Janna Brons and Mary Margaret Nelson finished behind her.

In the Mavs next meet, the Mavs placed seventh in a field of 13 teams at the University of Central Missouri Open. Stauffer led the Mavs with a 26th-place finish time of 16:22.29.

UNO's best showing of the season was at the 18-team Emporia State University Jock's Nitch Invitational. The Mavs, led by a 17th-place performance by freshman Kelly Esch, finished in fifth place.

The Mavs carried the momentum into their final regular season event. UNO placed five runners in the top 20 at the Tim Young Invitational in Vermillion, S.D.

Brons led the Mavs with a time of 20:14:28, good for 12th overall. Stauffer finished 14th with a time of 20:18:35. Nelson, Esch and Kunnemann rounded out UNO's top five.

The Mavs wrapped up the season with a last-place finish in the nine-team field at the MIAA championships hosted by Central Missouri.

Brons, UNO's top finisher in the race, finished in 31st place with a time of 24:29:80.

Head Coach Steve Smith said he saw the season as a developmental year and acknowledged the team must work on improving distance running to be successful next season.

"They did the best they could, but we see where we're at in this new conference, we need to recruit some distance runners to add to these girls," Smith said in October. "We didn't have any upperclassmen and that hurts."

Track and field claims UNO's first MIAA championship

BY MICHELLE BISHOP

The UNO indoor track and field team will forever go down in the history books of UNO athletics. The team is UNO's first to win a Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association conference championship.

Senior sprinter Pinar Saka's spectacular performance helped the Mavs earn the MIAA track and field championship. The Istanbul, Turkey native scored a meet-high 30.5 points to lead all female and male participants.

UNO won the final event of the day to edge runner-up Missouri Southern State University by one and a half points. The Mavs entered the final day of competition in last place in the nine-team meet but scored 87.5 points to finish with 94 points.

Saka finished first in both the 400-meter dash and the 600-yard run, second in the 60-meter dash and anchored the winning 4 x 440-yard relay team.

The Mavs capped the season with a fifth-place finish at the Division II national championship in Houston. UNO finished just one half point out of fourth place in its best ever performance at nationals.

Saka shined on the national stage, winning the 400-meter dash and anchoring the winning 4 x 400-meter relay. Junior Shannon Moore, sophomores Kayla Koepke and Anja Puc and Saka grabbed first place in the 4 x 400 meter relay with a time of 3:46.66.

Moore registered three personal bests during the indoor pentathlon. Moore ran the 60-meter hurdles in 8.99, threw 37 feet, 10 inches in the shot put and ran 2:21.35 in the 800-meter dash to finish third in the event.

Puc picked up a second-place

finish in the 800-meter dash with a time of 2:10.05. Earlier in the season, Maverick sprinters etched their names in the UNO record books.

Saka set a school record in the 400-meter dash at the Holiday Inn Invite in Lincoln on Jan. 17. Her time of 53.36 broke her own school record of 53.61. But just three weeks later at the Frank Sevigne Husker



COURTESY OF STEVE SMITH

Invitational in Lincoln, Saka broke her own record in the 400 with a time of 53.04. At the Wildcat Invitational on Jan. 31, Puc ran the 800-meter run in 2:11.57 to best the old UNO record of 2:13.25 set by Janice Moreau in 1985.

Saka shaved four seconds off the previous school record in the 600 by finishing in a time of 1:20.36, more than four seconds faster than Angela Kamps Schneider's record finish in 2007 (1:24.59).

At the Nebraska Tune-Up on Feb. 20, Saka ran a school record 23.93 in the 200-meter dash, breaking the old mark of 24.29 set by senior Molly Belling in 2007. Puc also bettered her school record time in the 800 with a run of 2:09.44, more than two seconds faster than her previous run.

UNO now looks to continue its success into the outdoor season that began April 4 with the Jock's Nitch Northwest Open in Maryville, Mo. The MIAA outdoor championships will be held May 2-3 in Joplin, Mo.

Softball off to strong start in first half of season



MICHELLE BISHOP/RETROSPECT

BY JESSE D. KUHNLE

The UNO softball team began competition in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association with the respect of its new conference opponents and a large bull's-eye on its back.

The 2009 MIAA Softball Preseason Coaches' Poll named the Mavericks No. 1, tied with Emporia State. The Mavericks received four first-place votes and Emporia State received five.

"We take that with basic strides," Head Coach Jeanne Scarpello said. "We know the conference is going to be tough. Every game will be a battle."

The Mavericks finished the 2008 season with a 44-13 record and made the NCAA Division II playoffs for the 19th straight year. The switch to the MIAA will add more conference games for the Mavericks, a favorable travel schedule and tough competition.

"Day in and day out the competition is going to be the best," Scarpello said. "It's going to better prepare us for postseason play."

The Mavericks graduated three major contributors from last year's team: outfielder Chanel Reaves, catcher Brianna Cataudella and third baseman Leslie Svoboda. Both Reaves and Cataudella were named to the All-North Central Conference team last year. Svoboda, a first-team All-American, was named to the All-NCC team and earned

the NCC's Most Outstanding Player award.

Junior second baseman Treightin Yates, also an All-NCC performer, said while the Mavericks may have large shoes to fill, the team will adjust.

"As far as practice, it's getting covered," Yates said. "I think the spots will get filled well."

The Mavericks are a young team led by catcher Beth Harris and senior outfielder Amanda Bader, both seniors. Yates and sophomore pitcher Beth Haley, both All-NCC

performers, are expected to help carry the load. Haley went 16-5 with a 2.00 ERA and was named conference Freshman of the Year last season.

Despite the younger team and new conference, the Mavs are sure it will all come together.

"The strongest point of our team is just our overall passion," Yates said. "Everyone loves to play the game. You've got to love what you're doing."

The Mavericks opened competition in 2009 with their first 25 games on the road, including multiple tournaments against some of the top teams in the country.

UNO opened the season with tournament play in the Southeastern Oklahoma Tournament, the Missouri Southern Tournament, the AAUW Softball Showdown and the Rebel Spring games. UNO completed the tournaments with a record of 20-5.

The 21st-ranked Mavericks won their first two home games against Wayne State and traveled to Nebraska-Kearney to sweep a doubleheader, improving to 24-5 as of press time.

The Mavs have a full slate of games ahead of them before the MIAA Postseason Tournament on April 30 in Overland Park, Kan.

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William Patrick McCarty
Lucas D. Steinhauser

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

For the degree, Bachelor of Arts
Crystal Lee Anderson
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Sara Elizabeth Batter
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Laura Renee Dohrmann
Stephanie Suzanne Gaa
Joshua David Goldberry
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Tracy S. Skalberg
Surachet Tansrisurop

Erica Tesla
Jeffery David Wattier
Arliss Arant White

For the degree, Bachelor of Science

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April Marie Basile
John Ross Clausen
Fume Ekpre
Sasha Marie Freese
Shayna Lynn Gard
Jason Robert Goosnito
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Aleece Faith Nanfuto
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Aurielle Testar Tamegnon
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Alexander Cunningham Williams
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Aaron Leigh Croft
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Latina D. Thompson
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Khayriniso Yarbabaeva
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Patrick Charles Zimmer

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For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering

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Thaddeus Adam Bode

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Jennifer Leigh Rowland

For the degree, Bachelor of Arts in Communication

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Yan He
Kate Alexandra O'Dea
Nadine Jo Vodicka

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Adam Scott Bazer
Paula Marie Coffee
Janelle Elizabeth Hislop
Jessica Claire-Ann Luna
Edna Mae McAlister
Holly Lynn Widholm

For the degree, Bachelor of Arts in Theatre

Christopher A. Wood

For the degree, Bachelor of Fine Arts
Bryan Marshall Truttmann

For the degree, Bachelor of Music

Abrea Lois Denaze Hensley
Christopher Philip Hopp

For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Communication

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COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SCIENCES

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Ashley Marie Schnieders
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José Manuel Santos
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Cory James Stephens
Sherry L. Stevenson
Mindi Lee Struck
Takahiro Takagi
Anne Michelle Thompson
Henry Kyle Wahle
Sarah Rose Weeks
Zachary Edward Wigginton
Kimberley Dawn Williams
Jacqueline Winchell
Daniel Keith Woodcock
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For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Social Work

Terran Justine Farr
Rachael Leigh Kimball
Rachel Anne Markey
Cory Robert Miles
Amy Sierra Panning
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For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Aviation

Sean Michael Cappel
Nicholas Fuhr
Justin James Nichols
Kelly Lynn O'Neal
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For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice (LINCOLN CAMPUS)

Lauren Michelle Campbell
Sharrah Colleen Kendall
Mahlon James Lofton
Scott McCoy Morrill
Kevin Eugene Nehring
Anthony Michael Ridolfi
Brandon Scott Schuett

COLLEGE OF INFORMATION SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

Nathan R. Anderson
Jonathan F. Bender
Michael Evan Bosetti
James Robert Gebhardt
Eric Green
Branden Michael Rolston

Grant Eugene Vicich, Jr.
For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems
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Brenton R. Bazata
Timothy Paul Corcoran
John Michael Hobbs
Jeffrey Hayne Novak
Ryan Marshall Shuck

Degrees and Certificates granted by the University of Nebraska at Omaha on December 19, 2008.

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For the degree, Master of Arts
Ashlee Maree Bartek
Magdalena Bastova
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Ethan Aaron Deas
Kenneth William Jost
Kari Lynne Mackiewicz
Andrea Petersen McGregor
Gregory Gideon Morales
Colin Michael Priebe
Shandalee Ramet
Kimberly T. Schwab
Adam J. Stevens
Ryan James Thompson
Tara A. Valentino
Nicole Lynn Vanosdel
Alexander Frederick Vesper

For the degree, Master of Arts for Teachers of Mathematics
Angela Mae Daughtrey
Deanna Chatfield Moisset

For the degree, Master of Science
Swarit Agarwal
Javier A. Alers
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 Ty Jeffrey Warner
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 Tara Ann Wegeaupt
 Raimond Scott Wojtalewicz

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For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology

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 Tyler James Fehringer
 Garrett M. Friesen
 Daniel Martin Grace
 Tamsen Renee Kirby
 Ryan Patrick Leahy
 Andrew John Lyon
 Daniel Michael Poulicek
 John Paul Poulicek, Jr.
 Alex Patrick Ryan
 Justin Craig Scherzberg
 Aaron Michael Steube

For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering

Barbara Kathleen Cunningham
 Klaidas G. Hall
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 Adam Joel McIntyre
 George Patrick Parizek
 Simone Angelique Rock
 Camilo Torres
 Jonathan Shane Tronson
 Randy Ray Walker

For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering

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 Gretchen Cameros Gonzales
 Daniel Joseph Norman

For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Architectural Engineering

Travis James Gambrell
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 Jacob Ryan Skow
 Andrew Francis Vaske
 Robin Nicole Wees

For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Electronics Engineering

Mosley Mbowa
 Kalpu Hang Rai
 Sanjay Rai
 William J. Yost, Jr.

For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Construction Engineering

Alex Leonard Bloemer
 Michael Patrick Boyle

Kevin J. Hier
 Juliana Lemus
 Katie Christine McPhillips
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For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Construction Management

Elizabeth Anne Hess

For Associate of Science in Technology

Tamsen Renee Kirby

COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION, FINE ARTS AND MEDIA

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For the degree, Bachelor of Arts in Communication

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 Thomas Elliott Gilmore
 Megan Marie Sages
 Amy Alyssa Thompson
 Sade C. Townsell

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 Anna Rose Keenan
 Lindsey Marie Kordash
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 Jason Robert Pohl
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 Melissa Irene Salts
 Emily Ann Saylor
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For the degree, Bachelor of Arts in Theatre

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 Joshua Randall Powell
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 Brittney Lauren Harris
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 Brandie Lea Beale
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 James Evan Catlett
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 Peggy Lynn Deaver
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 Ashley Marie Liston
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COLLEGE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice

David Ronald Anderson
 Thomas Henry Arrance
 Dawn M. Baker
 Brian Keith Bonifas
 Nick James Bordovsky
 Brittany Anne Cash
 Lucy Sue Czaplewski
 Gary William Dugger
 Landrum W. Fleming
 Mary Elizabeth Friend
 Haley K. Fries
 Ryan Dene' Gaston
 Catherine Marie Hearn
 Michael Lamar Hughes
 Danielle Dee Kampan
 Joel Michael Kelly
 Rachelle Kwasny Lauritsen
 Shannon Kay Lepert
 Zachary Scott Miller
 Tasha Maria Morris
 Andrew Charles O'Grady
 Robert Andrew Owens
 Brett Ray Schrage
 Meghan Marie Schulz
 Brandi Lynn Strohmeyer
 David Joseph Vencalek
 Thomas Robert Williams
 Kristen Marie Wortmann

For the degree, Bachelor of General Studies

Krista Michele Anderson
Erin Daneil Anderson-Novak
Elizabeth Suzanne Arthur
Mayuko Asakura
Trya Jay Aumiller
Timothy Paul Bowen
Michael Patrick Bragg
Timothy Allen Buhrlman
Catherine M. Carlson
Jennifer Lynn Carroll
Tina M. Chase
Christopher Edwin Coelho, Jr.
Robert Joseph Cummings
Kassi Anne Cunningham
Larry Douglas Deaver
Kellie Michelle Devney
Sarah Marie Doerr
Mark Alden Donovan
Devin Kinports Eden
Tonya Denise Fairgood
Chaeli Anne Fortina
Lesley Beth Gendelman
Bridget Kay Gentleman
Rosita Anne Golbek
Jon Michael Gordon
Heather Lynn Grayson
Edward Thomas Habermeyer
Wisam Haddad
Dianna L. Hakenson
Ryan Christopher Herrig
Gary L. Jackson, Jr.
Brent David Kear
Victor Ronald Kikel
Beth Lea Klauschie
Leland Thomas Klauzer
Karly Frances Kolden
Caren Linn McCardell Lacombe
Cody Danielle LeDent
Rebecca Anne Loewens
Kola Aig Longe
Ronaldo Estuardo Loyo
Lannie James Lukesh
Christine Marie McClintick
Todd McGruder
Shawn Patrick Montgomery
Sarah Jane Nelson
Jeanne M. O'Connor
Robert Philip Olsen
Mayra Aracely Orihuela
Robin Michelle Orr
Angela Marie Pacal
Eric Lamar Penn
Michael Jordon Perolio
Adam C. Phillips
Eugene Steady Pincney, Jr.
Nathanael J. Rutter
Scott William Schmieding
Travis Charles W. Sell
Nicolaus John Sieler
David John Smith
Marla Smith-Hester
Alicia M. Stice
Erin Maureen Stoffel
Scott Randel Strandberg
Zachary Lee Stribling
Justin Michael Swotek
Andre Angelo Tarpley
Amanda Marie Thompson
Amy Elizabeth Tingelhoff
Lee Trinrud
Thomas Lawrence Trofholz
Jennifer Lauren Turner
Cody Eugene Villarreal
Allyson Claire Wagner
Shannon Nichole Walker
Sara Marie Watson
Harvey Lee York

For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Social Work

Rickelle Pauline Collins
Michelle Joy Rhoden
Shawn Michael Woodman

For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Aviation

Justin Guy Botts
Andrew John Briggs
Michael Francis O'Connell
Nicolas Lee Thomas

For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice (LINCOLN CAMPUS)

Jace Benedict Backman
Danielle Marie Barbour
Sara Jo Barent
Kara Rae Brown
Anthony Joseph Cimino
Dustin Lars Geier
Nicole Fatimeh Ghahramani
Zachary Jay Hergert
Joshua Lyle Hruby
Jesse Robert Humpal
Jacob Johannes Knapp
Adam John Koenig
Austin Allen Leighty
Dana Marie McCord
Jared Lynn Osburn
Michael Lee Perry
Ryan Lee Pillard
Ross John Rausch
Lindsey Jo Rehtmeyer
Reed Brian Settje
Justin James Spackman
Lindsey Denae Spiegel
Ty J. Steinkuhler
Amy Nicole Stubbs
Phillip Minh Quoc Tran
Corey Mark Vasey
Kristin Elizabeth Weis
Kyle V. Wieseman

COLLEGE OF INFORMATION SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

Brian Battistone
Jared D. Brower
William E. Butts
Christina Rene Ellsworth
Travis Ryan Gingerich
Matthew Karl Lempka
Nicholas Joseph Nisi
Craig A. Pokorny
Jodi S. Porter
Josh D. Saltz
Joseph D. Scott
Amanda R. Thompson

For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems

John Jeremiah Ammerman
Jared D. Brower
Roger Keith Connelly
Christina Rene Ellsworth
Christopher A. Ferrante
Douglas Seabrook House
Koji Izumi
Derek Andrew Jensen
Brian Scott Larson
Scott E. Lewis
Michael Gadamba Muruli
Jason Christopher Peterson
Jonathan Mark Placzek
Ashley Marie Plaza
Kurtis John Schneckloth

Jakob Ross Sjuts
Daniel Christian Warren

For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Bioinformatics

Bonnie Jean Errett

Degrees and certificates to be granted by the University of Nebraska at Omaha on May 8 2009, as of April 2, 2009. Degrees to be awarded are subject to completion of academic requirements.

COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

For the degree, Master of Arts

Rachel Irene Ahrens
Kristin Noel Barquer
Dorothy Marie Bossman
Aaron Christopher Bourne
Sally Kay Buck
Justin David Budd
Andy Michael Callens
Juan Pablo Carciente
Victoria Ann Charles-Freivogel
Casey Jay Christo
James Nicholas Coppock
Edward Joseph Delaney
Danielle Marie Dring
Christina Marie Edelbrock
Bonnie K.B. Fitzgerald
Benny Foltz
Erin Colleen Gallagher
Jason Robert Gallagher
Andrea Jean Genereux
Beth Ann Gruber
Mustafa Ali Harb
Theresa V. Houlihan
Wesley Adam Houston
Paul Douglas Hunt
James Robert Jansen
Tasha A. Jarrett
Beverly Jane Lau
Ya Li
Frederick Earle MacVaugh
Carla Janette Manchester
Stephanie Faye Martin
Janet Duros McClearen
Shannon Joy McDonald
Stacy Lynn McKain
Jill Marie McMurtrey
Allison Jeannine Meier
Crystal M. Melby
Anne Elizabeth Mohri
Ryan Douglas Neel
Allison Rae Nelson
Daniel Patrick O'Dell
Carly Renae Pester
Patricia E. Philippi
Laura Roberts Quest
Caleb Paul Richter-Tate
Sara J. Roberts
Sheila A. Rocha
Kristin Irene Saathoff
Ryan Christopher Schmitt
Danielle Ashley Seymour
Rebecca Lynn Shively
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Kimberley M. Stuart
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Theresa A. Varga Swanson
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Christine L. Vanderpool-Kasel

Milica Vukovljak
Amanda Michol Wagner Buzzell
Amy Lynn Warren
Brandon Jeffery Weihs
Roy Matthew Zach
Yan Zhang
Molly Ann Zimmer

For the degree, Master of Accounting

Jay A. Graney
Ahrorjon Mansurovich Kaldashev

For the degree, Master of Science

Prince Godwin Adu
Jenna Maria Allen
Michael Wayne Arnold
Annette Therese Atherton
Till Bargfrede
Pamela Delois Belton
Tanya Denise Berry
Heidi Michelle Berthelsen
Ayitevi A. Boccovi
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Seetha Ram Mohan Kanchanapalli
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David Michael Kay
 Anil R. Khadka
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 Jiyong Koh
 Panagiotis Koutakis
 Bridget Ilene Kratt
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 Nicole Marie Neumann-Johnson
 Carissa Nicole Nietfeldt
 Sameena Jabeen Noetzel
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 Arnaldo J. Ovalles
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 Holida Uktamovna Samieva
 Ronica Sue Schottel
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 Morgan Kathleen Schroeder
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 Roxanne Davi Seieroe
 Tyree Dawn Sejkora
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 Thang S. Tran
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 Jessica Lynn Weddington
 Kelli L. Westphal
 Ted Joseph White
 Marjorie T. Winters
 Laura Margaret Wortman
 Linda J. Wright-Abalos
 Jeffery Michael Zdan
 Alicia Marie Zobel

For the degree, Master of Business Administration
 Markus Jeni Bauhan
 Jigish Arvindkumar Bhatt
 Benjamin Lee Carpick
 Jarod Lee Dowse
 Jeffrey L. Egol
 Maya Antoine Fadel

Snigdha Ganta
 Carissa Sue Gappa
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 Wesley Grant Gillis
 James Weldon "Don" Grafton
 Andrew Lee Henrichsen
 Amy Leigh Jorgens
 Gavin Reed Jorn
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 Meera Kashyap
 Jeff M. Kelly
 Mandy Leigh Killam
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 Gregory Charles Lanning
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 Radha Sarma
 Stephanie Maxine Stahl
 Andrew Wayne Stevens
 Jamie Lynn Talbot
 Joseph N. Terhaar
 Scott C. Thompson
 Philip Scott Valentine
 Benjamin Matthew Wallace
 Kyle D. Yost

For the degree, Master of Music
 Sarah Ann Aschenbrenner
 Marina Elwood Carson
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 Kelley Marie Gaughan
 Tessa Marie Gifford
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 John Robert Nixon
 Erin M. Olson O'Neill
 Hayley Ann Patton
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 Jason David Webster

For the degree, Master of Social Work
 Khanh Lai Borden
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 Brian J. Cramer
 Andrea J. Eben
 Kristin LeAnn Farley
 Patricia Susan Farrell
 Michelle Renea Flood
 Cari Ann Gronemeyer

Amanda Lynne Hershey
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For Doctor of Education
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 Momoko Fushimi
 Christine Elizabeth Galata
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 Yvette Garrett
 Janine Noelle Gast
 Joshua David Gazzetta
 Gavin Lawrence Geis
 Alecia A. Gerdine



For Doctor of Philosophy
 Abdelnasser M. Abdelaal
 Esperanza Camargo Bernal
 Alanah Joy Davis
 Denise Renee Leifer

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

For the degree, Bachelor of Arts
 Kayleta S. Adams
 Kari Lynn Allen
 Jennifer Lynn Andahl
 Nicholas Joseph Arreola
 Brett Joseph Badura
 Mindy Nicole Bilderback
 Angela Beth Blake
 Jacob Edward Borgelt
 Alyssa Beth Bowers
 Benjamin Schaffer Brodin
 Sydney Jennene Brommer
 Anthony Michael Brown
 Emily Rebecca Broz
 Jay Marcus Bruch
 QuinÈ Nicohle Butler
 Christina Maria Caragiulo
 Alexander George Cass

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 Barry A. Glynn
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 Sara Elizabeth Haas
 Charles Keith Haase
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 Sharon Ashley Hampshire
 Christopher Daniel Hanna
 Dyamond M. Harrington
 Kristin Maureen Hassett
 Sara Catherine Heck
 Michael Burke Heim
 Ashlie Nicole Henery
 Lindsay Marie Hermandson
 Jennifer Lynn Hester
 Sharon O. Higgins
 Jolene Elizabeth Hislop
 Damon F. Hobbs
 Jessica Ruth Hohman
 Thomas M. Holst
 Matthew Lyle Holst II
 Christopher Reed Howard
 Mohammed Iftikhar Husain
 Jacob Dean Isom
 James Paul Isom
 Kate Anne Jacobs



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Lois Imogene Jones
Nicole Catherine Keiser
Marina V. Kelley
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Amir Javed Khan
Erin Marie Klavins
Michelle Christine Knaack
Keenan Wesely Krick
Amy Elizabeth Kruempel
Stephanie Ann Larm
Katherine Meagan Linden
Ada V. Luna
Timothy James Malm
Amy Catherine Malone
Natalie Renee Caudill Markley
Maria Lucia Marquez
Brandon Lee Mass
Conor Francis McChesney
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Ashley Ryann Mercier
Jamie J. Meyer
Caelan Jay Millerd
Besmir Milloshi
Andrea Michelle Milne
Aya Miyazaki
Dean Louis Mueggenberg
Moe Mukai
Charity Anne Muñoz
Charles Mitchell Mutrux
Jessica Lynn Nawrocki
Jessica Marie Nemec
Catelyn Rose Newman
Andrew Craig Pease
Travis R. Penke
Dane Royal Peterson
Humaira Benafsha Qasimyar
Pavan L. Reddy
Angela Renee Reding
Tyson Daniel Reeder
Christina Marie Rogers
Sunday Dawn Rogers
Stephanie Ann Roloff
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Neil Patrick Sandhoefer
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Corine Louisette Sawadogo

Jason Christopher Schmitz
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Doc Richard Schumacher
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Angela M.S. Shaw
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William S. Targy
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Aziz B. Toshmatov
Tahnee Leigh Tuenge
Melissa Kay Vander Velde
Timothy Charles Wallace
Michael Lloyd Welborn
Amanda Elizabeth West
Nicole Marie Wiedmeier
Shea L. Wilkinson
Benjamin Daniel Williams
Jayne Catherine Wisnieski
Sarah Lynn Wright
Lori Ann Young
Eric Zamiš
Jessica Zavalva

For the degree, Bachelor of Science
Courtney Kay Allen
Amanda Julie Allibone
Alisha M. Anderson
Erica Karin Anderson
Vincent Michael Anderson
Dwyer Stenquist Arce
Theresa Marie Assad
Daneis S. Barber
Andrew J. Bauer
Christopher David Bauer
Sarah Lynn Bauer
Ryan Patrick Boyd
Anthony Taylor Brand
Anthony Edward Broderick
Mary Margaret Brown
Megan Sue Brown
Eric Joseph Buske
Nicole Marie Cantrell
Kristine Ann Cimino
Christina Marie Clark

Bethany Ann Cooney
Christopher Allen Dailey
Tyler Arthur Davis
Jon Patrick DeMuth
Jennifer Lasette Dunn
Leighton Michael Eash
Kimberly Christine Ellis
Nkem Emesih
John Edward Ernst
Abraham A. Farhat
Madeline Mae Freemole
Neal Joseph Gapinski
Jacqueline Francesca Glassman
Jeana M. Goswick
Kristin Nicole Graves
Ashley Victoria Hayden
Dayton Headlee
David Levigus Herren
Mitchell David Hiatt
Laura Elizabeth Himler
Jessica Elaine Hitz-Sauser
Hai-Yen Kim Hoang
Tony Ross Hormandl
Lee K. Jaramillo
William L. Jensen
Kaitlin B. Johnson
Rebecca Lynn Johnson
Natalie Elisha Karas
Andrew James Kettler
Shari Stoen Kimble
Chris Klug
Joseph Vincent Lamar
Christina Lynn Lee
Michael James Lehn
Nathan Michael Lenzen
Diana Marie Lindloff
James Kenneth Lucas
Mallory Anne Martineau
Daniel Jordan Matthew
Alier J. Mayola
Nicholas J. McClure
Audrey Christine Merrill
Kristin R. Mick
Christopher S. Miles
Joshua Dean Miller
Paul Thomas Damkroger Miller
Samantha Renee Morris
Travis James Mullins
Bjorn Ward Netsell

Jeffrey Ryan Neuharth
Rhianon J. Neuharth
Jenna Lyn Nielsen
Sarah Anne Nienhueser
Penny Jo Niles
Ekene C. Nwoye
Kimberly Shea O'Connell
Hisham Akramah Odeh
Sarah Marie Oetken
Meghan Lynn Parr
Brandon William Peters
Quang Vu Pham
Tyler Alexander Pietz
Brianne Nicole Pinkerton
Nicole M. Plowman
Humaira Benafsha Qasimyar
John Alexander Ramirez
Justin Michael Redlinger
Katie Rae Reeve
Nichole Marie Ridder
Justin Salvatore Ritonya
Jessica Lynn Robertson
Stacey M. Sand
Ann Louise Sawatzki
Jami Elizabeth Schuler
Megan Jewel Sheppard
Sudin Shrestha
Camellia T. Smith
Ryan Ross
Pamela Dale Spilker
Katie J. Stephens
Kenneth Dee Swantek
Mehdi M. Tajouri
Lisa Ann Thayer
Matthew Michael Thomas
Elizabeth Anne Tittel
Joshua D. Tolliver-Humpal
Sean Francis Toppi
Nicholas R. Valentour
Aisha Waheed
Rachel Judith Ward
Zachary M. Weiler
Joel James Welshons
Ross G. Wendel
Kelly A. Westfall
Megan Nicole Whitmore
David Alan Willingham
Brandon Jacob Wingert
Sarah Dawn Witt

Kenneth Anthony Yoho
Brandi Jo Yosten

UNL COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology

Michael Donald Behrens
Andrew James Berglund
John F. Bishop, Jr.
Joseph Michael Bohunis
Michael Glenn Bowman
Raymond Paul Boyd III
Brandon Michael Clark
Paul Michael Frederick
Dennis Michael Johnston
Alex T. Nielsen
Christopher Thomas Otto
Jesse Mark Ridder
John Patrick Snyder
Derek Wallace Stork
Michael Lee Thomazin

For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering

Kyle Joseph Bender
Aaron Todd Bierman
Travis Ray Crawford
Derek John Gardels
Barbara Muhlbauer Gerbino
John Ray Geringer
Brian Michael Goliber
Benjamin Wayne Grone
Andrew Eric Hadland
Kawa Ibrahim Hamidi
Zachary M. Hergenrader
Brian T. Kellogg
Brandon Paul Landis
Kenton Elliot McBride
Paul V. Roh
Jodi L. Sangster
Timothy Paul Schakat
Bethany Lynn Seidel
Grzegorz A. Stelmaszek
Peter Jeffrey Vonk
William Carl Wegner

For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering

Matthew D. Barr
Kyle Alan Borowski
Austin Jay Brockmeier
Jason Carl Colasacco
Dean Edward Glazesski
Kyle Michael Hovorka
Max R. Kurkowski
Keith C. McDermott
John James Miller
Nicholas Michael Wertzberger
Kenneth Anthony Yoho

For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Architectural Engineering

Holly Renee Bitzinger
Desiree' Nichole Boger
Katelyn Susannah Bohling
Shane Patrick Campagna
Eric Jesse Daniels
Sean Alan Denning
Geoffrey Thomas Deter
Seth Daniel Goeken
Stephen Paul Gollehon
Ryan David Goughnour
Daniel R. Hilgendorf
Brian Daniel Howell
Kathlyn Renae Jacobsen
Matthew C. Kasprzak
Andrew Wayne Klein

Leila I. Knowles

Diana Lynn Kompare
Scott Andrew Lindgren
Caitlin Brianna Luke
Joanna Gayle Mason
Kristin M. McCormick
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Justin M. Mosley
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Amy Elizabeth Pelkner
Beth Ann Redding
Travis Michael Schafer
Katie Louise Spahn
Justin Joseph Stein
Jamie Lynn Tills
John Ngoc Tran
Kevin Michael Wenninghoff
Nathan William Witte

For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Construction Engineering

Aaron Daniel Geary
Joel Robles

For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Construction Management

Koudous Aboudou Kabassi
Joshua C. Armstrong
Allen David Berglund
Jason John Craig
Jenna Michelle Donley
Jessie William Donley
Bryce Adam Kolund
Gabriel Nicholas Passo
Michael Andrew Wisniewski

For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Electronics Engineering

Euphrem Olouwole Agbatehi
William Marshall Blevins
Brooks C. Blohm
James Merrill Devaney
Christopher J. Franco
Mark Allen Huebner
Jonathan Ray Huibregtse
Aaron Paul Krause
Michael J. Menghini
Tomin Jean Noutoua
Drew Patrick Pfeifer
Jose Luis Salas III
Aaron T. Sharp
Austin Edward Steiner
Kenneth Anthony Yoho

For degree, Associate of Science in Technology

Nicholas Joseph Gunia
Jerad Joseph Henderson
Anthony Wilbert Jackson
Justin Martin Kohlbek
Ryan Alan Lucas
Alex Lee Martin
Colin Christopher Quist

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

For the degree, Bachelor of Science in Education

Denise Marie Adams
Amanda M. Allen
Annmarie Elizabeth Andersen
Katherine Diane Anderson
Laura Catherine Anderson
Lindsey K. Anderson
Courtney Michelle Babic
Carrie Beth Bailey
Amanda Jo Baker
Ashley Anna Barna

Malachi Kevin Behrens

Rebecca Anne Bettendorf
Serenity Nicole Blake
Andrew Ray Blazek
Kristi Lynn Bolin
Angela JoAnne Bosak
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Mariama Issoufou
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Crystal Faye Knueppel
Tristan M. Koehler
Stacie Lynn Kosch
Jessica Lynn Kovar
Daniel P. Kowal

Alicia Ann Krogstrand

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Laura Elizabeth Lampe
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Valerie Anne Liston
Jacob Michael Martinez
Molly Kathleen McMeekin
Helena Mae McNeer
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Sherry Kaye Moural
Megan Maria Muhlbauer
Lucas Christian Munderloh
Takashi Nagano
Lynn Thomas Newcomb
Carissa Maureen Nohr
Terrence D. O'Donnell
Marilyn Jean Opitz
Kristina Marie Pajeda
Makayla Nicole Patrick
Matthew Trent Perry
Ashley Ann Peters
Amy Nicole Peterson
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Ryan Scott Scribner
Teddy Mike Shiers, Jr.
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Shari Lynn Smith
Elizabeth Anne Sobczyk
Stephanie L. Sobia
Suzanne M. Sobia
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Kelsey Beth Stratman
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Scott A. Thompson
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Felicia Denise Turner
Andrew Don Tweedy
Cheelou Vang
Christopher Adam Raul Villarreal
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Danelle M. Waller
Lindsey Erin Warren
Craig Weathers
Amy Marie Wellwood
Amanda Elizabeth West
Tess Emma Whipple
Jennifer L. Whisler
Christopher Allan Whitwer
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Lynette Renee Wieger
Kimberly Joyce Wiley
Alison Anne Winkler
Sarah Dawn Witt
Sara Jo Wolfe
Rochelle Diane Meier Wolverton
Nathan Glen Wragge
Sarah Ann Yarpe
Pamela Kay Young

Margaret Mary Zach
John Phillip Zucchelli

**COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION**

For the degree, Bachelor of Science in
Business Administration

Holly Brooke Alger
Kyle Charles Amos
Christy Lynn Armendariz
Melanie Nicole Arnold
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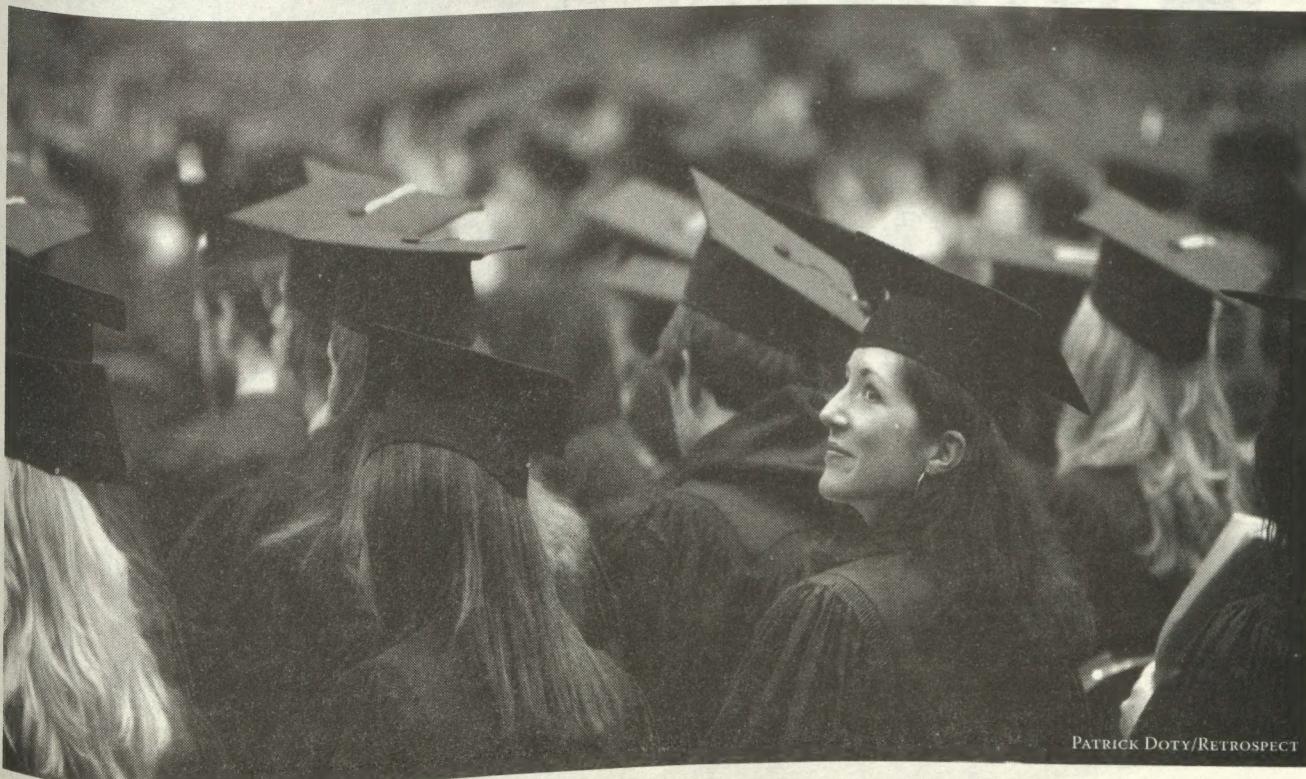
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